Trade and Industry

Research & Development

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will you be ready in time?

From now on discriminatory collective agreements and pay structures can be referred to the Industrial Arbitration Board for advice on any amendments which would need to be made in order to remove the discrimination when the Act comes into force.

If you are in doubt about your full obligations under the Act you should obtain the Department of Employment's booklet "A Guide to the Equal Pay Act 1970" and an explanatory leaflet "Equal Pay—What are you doing about it?". These give the addresses of Regional Managers in the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service who can help you with any problems.

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Trade and Industry

13 February 1975

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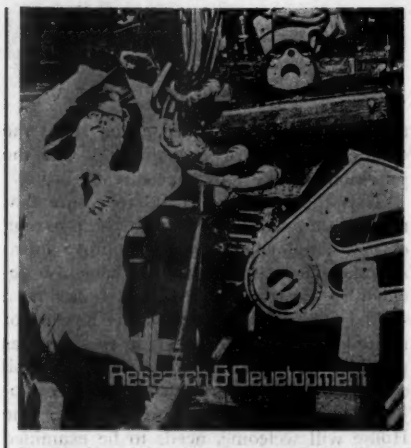

Research and development as a cover theme has threefold relevance to this week's issue. The Statistics section carries a major article on employment in scientific research and development in British industry. In the Technology section, there are reviews of R & D work being undertaken under the aegis of the Departments of Industry and Energy.

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Steel closure review – interim report

The following statement was made to Parliament 4 February by Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry:

'On 23 May, I reported to the House the procedures we had agreed, with those concerned, for conducting the review of the proposed closures of steelworks, which we had promised in the Labour Party's Programme for Britain: 1973. My Rt. Hon. and Noble Friend, the Minister of State, Lord Beswick, undertook that review, and has now made an Interim Report, copies of which were made available to Members of the House this morning and which will be printed in the Official Report. This Report represents the first results of the most extensive and open examination of the plans of a Public Corporation that has taken place, requiring them to justify their proposals in detail in the light of their social responsibilities. The Government has accepted the conclusions in Lord Beswick's Report, and hopes they will also be acceptable to those who work in the steel industry and to the House.

'We have carefully re-examined the capacity target of the Corporation, set out in the previous Government's paper on BSC's development strategy, about which many of my Hon. Friends have been concerned. In the light of the review, the Corporation propose to accelerate their development strategy so as to achieve a capacity of 37 million tonnes a year in the early 1980s. This is as rapid an expansion as can be realistically expected in current conditions.

'The plants covered by the Interim Report are East Moors, Hartlepool iron and steelmaking, Cleveland ironmaking, Shelton, Shotton and Ebbw Vale. Nothing announced today will pre-empt decisions still to be taken on the BSC's proposals for Scotland or other cases still under review. For East Moors, we have secured the deferment of the closure by four years to not earlier than January 1980. At Hartlepool, the closure of iron and steelmaking will be deferred by at least two years until 1978. At Cleveland, the closure dates proposed by the BSC will be adhered to because the alternative employment is readily available at the BSC plants close by. As to Shelton, a new steel plant will be erected which will save about 800 jobs. The propose closure at Shotton will be deferred at least until 1980-81, while further study is undertaken of the economies of modernised steelmaking there. At Ebbw Vale, we have accepted the BSC proposals for the closure of iron and steelmaking and ultimately of the hot mill. Production at the hot mill, as elsewhere, will be maintained until adequate supplies of replacement steel become available from other plants.

'This review has therefore saved some 13,500 jobs for from two to four years or more at East Moors, Hartlepool and Shotton and has permanently saved the jobs of about 800 men at Shelton. Of the plants reviewed, the only closure now imminent is ironmaking and some of the steelmaking at Ebbw Vale. Discussions with the Chairman of the Corporation about the detailed phasing of redundancies and the provision of new jobs have already begun.

'It is the policy of HMG to ensure that resources are available to assist the provision of new employment and to improve infrastructure in areas affected. We have also decided to ask the Corporation to accept a special responsibility both in the phasing of redundancies and, to as great an extent as possible, for the provision of new job opportunities in steel-related and other projects. This latter concept, which I hope the House will welcome, needs to be examined and discussed more fully but it could introduce a new dimension into redundancy problems in the public sector.'

Lord Beswick's interim report on the Steel Closures Review was briefly reported in last week's *Trade and Industry*, page 278. Further information is contained in the following table.

Cases considered	Number of job opportunities involved	Original proposed date of closure	Outcome
Shotton			
Iron and steel-making and hot rolling	6,000	Phased closure 1976/78	Further study needed of economics of new steel plant. Meanwhile BSC defer their proposed closure date to 1980/81. Development of finishing plant, saving 500 jobs or more
Shelton			
Iron and steel-making	1,700	1976	New electric arc plant to be built with saving of approximately 800 jobs
East Moors			
Total plant closure	4,700	Not before January 1976	Closure deferred to not before January 1980
Ebbw Vale			
Blast furnaces, steel plant and slabbing mill	3,300	1975/77	BSC proposal agreed. Further development of tin plating
Ebbw Vale			
Hot strip mill	1,300	1978/79	Closure to be dependent on adequate supplies becoming clearly available from elsewhere
Hartlepool			
Coke ovens, sinter plant, blast furnaces, steel plant and slabbing mill	2,800	1975/76	Closure deferred to 1978 at earliest. Pipe mills to be developed
South Teesside – Cleveland Works			
Coke ovens, sinter plant and blast furnace	1,400	1975/78	No change to BSC proposals given new job opportunities at Redcar

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Conference on economics of industrial subsidies

A conference on the economics of industrial subsidies was held at the Civil Service College, Sunningdale from 7-9 February. The conference, sponsored by the Department of Industry, was arranged with the object of reviewing current thinking on the economic analysis of all forms of industrial subsidies which could be of relevance to policy decisions. It is intended to publish the papers and proceedings of the conference in the hope that this may stimulate further research on this important yet somewhat neglected subject.

The conference, which was opened by the Secretary (Industry), Mr. P. W. Carey, CB, was attended by academics and senior civil servants from the Department of Industry, HM Treasury, the Department of Employment, the Central Policy Review Staff and the Scottish Office.

It covered the whole field of industrial subsidies, a formidable task, and one which involved the analysis of many diverse areas of Government policy. The areas covered by the conference can broadly be classified as: the economic rationale of subsidies in general to industry, the economics of labour subsidies, the economics of investment grants and allowances, the economics of aid to research and development, the economics of regional subsidies, and the quantitative estimation of the effects of industrial subsidies.

US safety chief praises British air crash investigators

British investigators made a 'major contribution' in pinpointing the cause of a TWA airliner disaster last year, says the head of the US National Transportation Safety Board.

In a letter to Mr. William Tench, Chief Inspector of Accidents, Department of Trade Accidents Investigation Branch, Governor John H. Reed, Chairman of NTSB says:

'Now that the laboratory work in connection with the TWA Boeing 707 accident over the Ionian Sea on 8 September 1974, is complete, the National Transportation Safety Board wishes to acknowledge the major contributions of the personnel involved from the Accidents Investigation Branch, Department of Trade, and the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment, Ministry of Defence.

'Their assistance was invaluable during the initial and laboratory phases of the investigation and in the determination that the detonation of a higher order explosive occurred aboard this aircraft.

'It is a pleasure for me to acknowledge this meaningful assistance and to commend you for your exemplary demonstration of international co-operation in the field of aircraft accident investigation.'

During their investigation of the crash the NTSB requested British assistance because of the specialised knowledge AIB has of the techniques involved in investigating air disasters caused by explosive devices.

Eric Newton, Principal Inspector of Accidents (Engineering), AIB, examined wreckage of the TWA aircraft in Greece and later in the USA, where he was joined by two explosives experts from the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment Fort Halstead.

Air Travel Reserve Fund Bill

The Air Travel Reserve Fund Bill was published on 6 February. It follows the Government's decision, announced on 16 September by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade to set up a Reserve Fund to provide a strong second line of defence for holidaymakers travelling abroad by air.

The purposes of the Bill are:

(*a*) to provide for the establishment of the Air Travel Reserve Fund from which payments may be made in respect of losses or liabilities incurred by customers of air travel organisers as a result of the inability of such organisers to meet their financial commitments in respect of certain descriptions of travel contracts;

(*b*) to establish an agency to hold, manage and apply the Fund;

(*c*) to provide for contributions to be made for the purposes of the Fund by air travel organisers;

(*d*) to provide for loans to the agency by the Secretary of State.

Clause 1 provides for a body corporate, the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency, to hold, manage and apply the assets of the Fund in accordance with the Act and rules empowered to be made by the Civil Aviation Authority. Members of the Agency will be appointed by the Secretary of State after consultation with the Authority and will include representatives of the Authority and the Travel Trade. The Chairman will be independent of the Authority, the Travel Trade and the Department of Trade.

Clause 2 provides for the Fund to be applied to make payments to customers of air travel organisers holding an air travel organiser's licence at the time of booking unless the time for performance under the contract fell before 6 February 1975 in respect of losses or liabilities incurred by such customers (*a*) in connection with an overseas air travel contract to be performed after 1 April 1974 or (*b*) an overseas surface travel contract to be performed before 6 February 1975. The loss or liability must be incurred as a result of the inability of the air travel organiser to meet his financial commitments under the contract.

The Fund will be a second line of defence to the existing bonding arrangements where there is a bond or similar security in force at the time of booking and the money due thereunder has become payable but, if available, is insufficient to reimburse customers.

Clause 3 provides for the Civil Aviation Authority, with the approval of the Secretary of State, to make rules in respect of the payments from the Fund and to define the circumstances in which an air travel organiser is to be held to be unable to meet his financial commitments. The Agency will be required to supply copies of the benefit rules, free of charge, in response to requests and will take steps to give publicity to the rules.

Clause 4 provides that regulations made under Section 26 of the Civil Aviation Act 1971 may require contributions related to actual turnover in respect of overseas air travel contracts to which the Act applies to be made for the purposes of the Fund and for provisional payments in respect of such contributions to be made as a condition of the issue or variation of air travel organisers' licences. The amount of the provisional payment will be adjusted to take account of the turnover actually achieved. Contributions will be received by the Authority and will be paid over to the Agency from time to time after the deduction of any expenses, including the employment of staff, incurred in the collection of contributions.

Clause 5 provides for the Secretary of State, with the approval of the Treasury, to make loans to the Agency. The loans, which are to be repaid by the Agency out of the Fund, will not exceed £15 million in aggregate and will not be made after 30 September 1977.

Clause 6 provides for the Secretary of State, after consultation with the Civil Aviation Authority, the Agency and interested parties, to dissolve the Agency and wind up the Fund.

The Schedule enables the Secretary of State to give directions to the Agency with regard to the performance of their functions and will require the Agency to submit an Annual Report and Accounts to the Secre-

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tary of State to be laid before Parliament.

Financial effects of the Bill

Payment of monies provided by Parliament will be required in respect of loans made to the Agency by the Secretary of State with the approval of the Treasury. Loans are not to exceed £15 million in aggregate and will not be made after 30 September 1977. It is expected that repayments of the loans will start in October 1976 and will be completed within the following three years. The cost of the management of the Fund will be payable from the Fund.

Effects of the Bill on manpower

The Bill will not have any effect on the staffs of Government Departments. A very small increase in staff is expected to be required by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The scheme has the general support of the Association of British Travel Agents.

The bonding arrangements of air travel organisers are not affected by this Bill, and these remain the principal means for protecting holidaymakers against the failure of an air travel organiser.

The Civil Aviation Authority last October increased the level of bonds to 7½ per cent for members of ABTA and 12½ per cent for other air travel organisers, and have announced their intention to increase the level to 10 per cent for ABTA members and 15 per cent for other air travel organisers from 1 April 1975.

The new Reserve Fund, to be established under the Bill, will protect holidaymakers and others who book a flight with an air travel organiser who holds a licence from the Civil Aviation Authority provided that the flight in question is (i) one for which an air travel organiser's licence is needed and (ii) is overseas.

It is intended that arrangements should be made to cover holidays abroad using other forms of transport at a later stage. But a high proportion of those travelling overseas use air travel, including about 90 per cent of those taking inclusive tours.

Court Line holidaymakers

The timing of repayments to Court Line and other passengers who lost holidays last year through the failure of travel firms will depend on the progress of the Bill through Parliament. Further announcements will be made later.

Meanwhile claimants should keep in touch with their travel agent so that he can contact them when necessary, or if they booked direct with the tour operator they should contact the liquidator of the company.

Skytrain licence gets qualified confirmation

The Civil Aviation Authority has decided that it would be wrong to revoke the licence held by Laker Airways to operate a Skytrain service, notwithstanding the weighty and well argued case advanced for its revocation by British Airways. The Authority has also decided to grant Laker Airways' application for an increase in the proposed Skytrain fare (one way, London-New York) from £52 to £59.

In its decision confirming the licence, granted in 1972, the CAA says, 'We regard the Skytrain experiment as one to be launched in propitious circumstances when the operator and the public can have confidence that the experiment will prove successful and when diversion from other operators would be likely, at worst, to fall within tolerable limits. We are forced to the conclusion that the Skytrain service should not be inaugurated until the market has resumed a healthy rate of growth'. The Authority goes on to say, 'The market, as we see it, is now unlikely to expand fast enough for at least 12 months and perhaps even longer.

'When, in September 1972, the Authority decided to grant Laker Airways a licence to operate a Skytrain service between Stansted and New York, it saw this as a limited and controlled experiment against the background of a vigorous and expanding demand for air travel across the North Atlantic. The Skytrain concept of a no-reservation walk-on service seemed likely to cater for a segment of demand to whose needs other types of service, actual and potential, were less well suited. Skytrain seemed likely, therefore, to generate additional traffic and, although the scale of this new traffic could not be forecast with any precision, it appeared that the safeguarding provisions in the licence would be likely to confine the diversion of traffic from other services within acceptable limits, given the general and continuing expansion of the market that was then foreseen.

'A valuable experiment'

The CAA 'still considers Skytrain to be a valuable experiment directed towards the broadening of the air transport market and the improvement of consumer choice and satisfaction. It is however an experiment that should be launched when circumstances are conducive to a favourable outcome.'

The Authority considered possible modifications to the Skytrain licence, including capacity limitations and a higher tariff, but decided that these would be impractical. It accepts 'that 1975 is far from being the ideal year in which to start a Skytrain service and that the commercial risks to Laker Airways if the service were started in 1975 would be materially greater than they appeared in 1972.'

The Authority acknowledges the commitments made by Laker Airways following the grant of the Skytrain licence in 1972, and subsequent upholding on appeal, and says 'it would be wrong to render nugatory Laker Airways' expenditure so far of up to £7 million by going back on these decisions without the most compelling reasons.'

Airmiss Analysis report

An analysis of civil airmisses over the United Kingdom published by the Civil Aviation Authority* shows that airmiss figures, taken in conjunction with traffic levels, can be used as a quantitative index of the safety of air traffic control arrangements. Since 1968 there has been no growth in the UK airmiss rate per flight despite a considerable growth of traffic, and this is a strong indication that improvements to the UK air traffic control system have been successful.

The analysis of causes shows that human error is the principal cause of airmisses, and that it is attributable equally, in terms of numbers, to the pilot and air traffic controller. Relatively few airmisses are the result of a technical system fault, but when these occur they are more likely to be within the high risk-bearing category.

This study was carried out by the CAA's scientific staff in close co-operation with the staff of the National Air Traffic Services. Although it was conducted for internal purposes, the Authority has decided that the results should be published, and that in future more of its internal studies should be made available in this way to those outside the Authority with an interest in aviation. These reports will form a new CAA Paper Series, of which this is the first.

The National Air Traffic Services will continue their analytical work on airmisses and are setting up a computer base for airmiss data in order to facilitate this work in the future.

* CAA Paper 75001: 'An Analysis of the Civil Airmiss Situation in the United Kingdom and its relation to Collision Risk', price £2.50. Available from CAA, PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, or by personal callers at CAA Central Library, Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London, WC2B 6NN.

Applications for increases in domestic air fares

The 14 British airlines operating domestic air routes have applied to the Civil Aviation Authority for increases in air fares from 1 April to recover some of the cost increases that are already being incurred.

British Airways and British Caledonian Airways have applied for an extra £1 and £2 respectively on the current domestic trunk route tourist one-way fares between London and the South Coast and Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Prestwick. The present normal tourist fare for the routes is £17.

Other increases applied for are 15 per cent on Scottish internal air routes, and routes to the Isle of Man, with certain exceptions; 15 per cent on routes to Belfast with the exception of Manchester-Belfast for which 10 per cent has been applied for; 10 per cent on Channel Islands routes to the mainland, with 5 per cent on inter-Island routes; and 10 per cent on other UK internal routes with certain exceptions,

such as London-Birmingham, for which a 15 per cent increase has been applied for.

The Civil Aviation Authority will hold a public hearing of the applications on 11 March.

Development Land Tax

During his Budget Statement on 12 November 1974 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that a statement would be issued giving further details of the proposed development land tax outlined in the White Paper on Land published on 12 September 1974. The statement is now available and copies may be obtained free on application in person or in writing to the Public Inquiry Room, Inland Revenue, Room 8, New Wing, Somerset House, London WC2R 1LB.

Detailed statistics of UK overseas trade

Each month the Overseas Trade Statistics give a considerable amount of detail about United Kingdom imports, exports and commodities and, for many of them, the most important countries. The information in these statistics is a summary of much more detailed information. This is derived from declarations made by traders to HM Customs and Excise under the descriptions in the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification (which has over 11,000 commodity headings); there are 199 specified countries.

The fully detailed information is not published on a monthly basis but, when circumstances allow HM Customs and Excise can supply detailed information about trade under individual descriptions of the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification and with individual countries or through United Kingdom ports, either for particular months or for longer periods. A charge is made which covers the cost of the service. Applications should be made to the Statistical Office (Bill of Entry Section), HM Customs and Excise, 27 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS2 6AL. (Tel. Southend (0702) 49421, ext. 316 or 323 for Imports, or ext. 314 or 315 for Exports, Telex 99112 CUSEX Southend.)

Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958

Dealers in Securities

The following changes have taken place in the lists of dealers in securities under Section 3 and 16 of the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958.

Licensed dealers

Additions:

The Arab and Morgan Grenfell Finance Company Ltd., 4 Throgmorton Avenue, London EC2P 2AB.

Praline Ltd., Cropton House, Three Tuns Lane, Formby, Lancs., L33 4AQ.

Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities) Ltd., 13th Floor Stock Exchange Building, London EC2N 1EY.

Fidelity Management & Research (UK) Ltd., 80-81 Lombard Street, London EC3V 9DX.

Deletions:

Audley Holdings Ltd., 115 Moorgate, London EC2M 6TJ.

George Colin Whittel Joynson, Tubs Hill House, London Road, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Fowler (Richard Fowler Holdings) Ltd., 306 Church Street, Blackpool, Lancs.

Change of name:

First Investors Ltd., to Henderson Financial Management Ltd., Crosswall House, 11-13 Crosswall, London EC3N 2AQ.

Change of address:

C. Kirkland-Whittaker Ltd., 67 Chiswall Street, London EC1Y 4XX.

Investment and General Management Services Ltd., Neville House, Wendens Ambo, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4LB.

Exempted dealers

Additions:

Banco de Santander SA, 38 Lombard Street, London EC2V 9BP.

Habib Bank Ltd., 12 Finsbury Circus, London EC2.

Deletions:

Norman & Bennet Ltd., 5 Fenchurch Street, London EC2.

Anglo-Continental Trust Ltd., 65-68 Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 2BA.

Change of name:

Wallace Brothers Sassoon Bank Ltd., to Wallace Brothers Bank Ltd., 4 Crosby Square, London EC3A 6AJ.

Change of address:

Manchester Exchange and Investment Bank Ltd., Shelley House, Noble Street, London EC2V 7JQ.

British Trust Association Ltd., 51 Eastcheap, London EC3P 3BU.

Bradford Insurance Company Ltd., North Park, Halifax, Yorkshire.

Burston & Texas Commerce Bank Ltd., 38 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BE.

Power Securities Corporation Ltd., Randolph House, Wellesley Road, Croydon, Surrey.

Authorised Unit Trust Schemes

The following amendments have taken place in the list of unit trust schemes authorised under Section 17 of the Act and published in Part 5 of the 1974 Particulars of Dealers in Securities and of Unit Trusts.

Group and/or name and address of management company	Name of scheme	Name and address of Trustee
Additions		
Grieveson Management Co. Ltd., Barrington House, 59/67 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2DS	The Barrington Fund	Lloyds Bank Ltd., 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS
Changes		
DELETE		
Bridge Talisman Fund Managers Ltd., Plantation House, 5-8 Mincing Lane, London EC3M 3DX	The Talisman Unit Trust Talisman International and Financial Unit Trust	Lloyds Bank Ltd., 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS
Bridge Trust Management Co. Ltd., Peninsular House Monument Street, London EC3R 8BB	Bridge Capital Unit Trust Bridge Income Unit Trust Bridge Exempt Fund Bridge Overseas Unit Trust	Lloyds Bank Ltd., 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS
AND REPLACE BY		
Bridge Talisman Fund Managers Ltd., Plantation House, 5-8 Mincing Lane, London EC3M 3DX	Bridge Talisman Capital Unit Trust Bridge Talisman Exempt Fund Bridge Talisman Income Unit Trust Bridge Talisman International Unit Trust	Lloyds Bank Ltd., 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS

Group and/or name and address of management company	Name of scheme	Name and address of Trustee
Vavasseur Unit Management Ltd., 15/16 America Square, Crosswall, London EC3	Vavasseur Australian Trust Vavasseur Capital Accumulator Trust Vavasseur International Trust Vavasseur European Trust Vavasseur Far East Trust Vavasseur Financial Fund Vavasseur High Income Trust Vavasseur Income and Assets Trust Vavasseur Investment Trust Units Vavasseur North American Trust Vavasseur Oil and Natural Resources Trust Vavasseur Personal Portfolio Fund	Midland Bank Trust Co. Ltd., 27/32 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX
AND REPLACE BY		
Henderson Unit Trust Management Ltd., Crosswall House, 11-13 Crosswall, London EC3N 2LQ	Henderson Australian Trust Henderson Capital Accumulator Trust Henderson European Trust Henderson Far East Trust Henderson Financial Trust Henderson High Income Trust Henderson Income and Assets Trust Henderson International Trust Henderson Investment Trust Units Henderson North American Trust Henderson Oil and Natural Resources Trust Henderson Personal Portfolio Trust	Midland Bank Trust Co. Ltd., 27/32 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX
Key Fund Managers Ltd., 25 Milk Street, London EC2V 8JE	The Key Capital Fund Key Exempt Fund The Key Income Fund Key Private Investment Fund	General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Co. Ltd., General Buildings, Perth
AND REPLACE BY		
Key Fund Managers Ltd., 25 Milk Street, London EC2V 8JE	The Key Capital Fund Key Exempt Fund The Key Income Fund Key Private Investment Fund	National Westminster Bank Ltd., 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP

Amalgamations

Bridge Capital Unit Trust amalgamated with The Talisman Unit Trust and the amalgamated trust was renamed Bridge Talisman Capital Unit Trust.
Bridge Overseas Unit Trust amalgamated with Talisman International and Financial Unit Trust and the amalgamated trust was renamed Bridge Talisman International Unit Trust.

Revocations

By agreement with the Managers and Trustees the Orders of authorisation for the following schemes which have not been launched have been revoked.

Minster Fund Managers Ltd., Minster House, Arthur Street, London EC4R 9BH	Investminster	National Westminster Bank Ltd., 41 Lothbury, London EC2P 2BP
Quilter Management Co. Ltd., 31/45 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7LH	Quadrant American Fund	The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland, PO Box 5, Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
27 January 1975		
994,057	The Raymond Corporation	Improvements in or relating to goods-handling lift trucks
994,778	The Raymond Corporation	Improvements in or relating to materials-handling trucks
1,065,523	The Raymond Corporation	Improvements in or relating to direct current control systems
1,072,936	The Raymond Corporation	Improvements in or relating to motor control systems
1,073,138	The Raymond Corporation	Improvements in or relating to load manipulators
1,087,354	The Raymond Corporation	Improvements in or relating to materials-handling vehicles
1,109,196	Agfa-Gevaert	Developer concentrate
1,249,277	Agfa-Gevaert	Stabilisation of developed photographic silver images
1,236,812	Otto Dann	New diamidine compounds and process for their manufacture
1,227,285	Continentale Et Garnier	Improvements in and relating to electric cut-out switches
1,242,486	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements in and relating to a motion control mechanism
1,366,944	Glaverbel	Method and apparatus for testing light-transmitting material
29 January 1975		
1,179,408	Engineering and Chemical Supplies and Services Ltd.	Process and apparatus for removing the outer skins of onions

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

New VAT special schemes for retailers

New VAT schemes tailored to meet the special requirements of retailers have been published by HM Customs and Excise. They will come into effect on a date to be announced shortly and will supersede existing procedures.

Guidance on the new schemes – there are nine – is given in a booklet (Notice No. 727: Special Schemes for Retailers) which replaces Notice No. 707. It is being distributed to retailers concerned to help them decide which scheme is best suited to their business.

The new schemes are mainly revisions of the existing arrangements which were designed to enable retailers to pay VAT on their sales without having to keep a detailed record of every sale made. A completely new, simple scheme has been added for very small businesses.

Each of the schemes is described in a separate Supplement which deals with its day-to-day operation. When retailers have decided on a particular scheme they can send off the prepaid postcard included with Notice No. 727 to obtain the relevant Supplement.

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotion Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate Regional Office for firms outside London and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and the South East of England). The Department in co-operation with Commercial Officers at Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the Commercial Officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessman intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas Commercial Officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the Department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible. The range of information required for this purpose includes details of the firm, their products/services and the purpose and background to the visit.

Warning on electric metal panel heaters

Mrs. Bertha Nuttall, calling at the consumer advice centre at Manchester County Hall, finds herself talking to Alan Williams, Minister of State, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. Mr. Williams had earlier opened a centre at Urmston on the outskirts of the city. Standing with hands folded is Geoff Peters, senior consumer adviser.

The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection considers it necessary to issue a warning about the excessive surface temperatures reached by some imported electric metal panel radiators.

The radiators in question are steel encased and are up to two inches thick. Some imported radiators of this kind are intended for operation at 220 volts and, when these are connected to the standard UK supply voltage at 240 volts, they produce approximately 20 per cent more heat than when operating at the lower voltage. If they are not controlled by an internal thermostat, they may develop surface temperatures far in excess of the limit specified in the relevant British Standard. Some are known to reach temperatures in excess of 150°C. If exposed parts of the body come into contact with metal at this temperature, serious burns can be caused even on brief contact. There may also be a fire risk from such radiators if the air flow around the metal surfaces is obstructed, for example by clothing or bedding over them.

Members of the public who have purchased electric metal panel radiators which may be of this kind are advised to ascertain that their radiators comply with the provisions of British Standard 3456: Section 2.10 concerning temperature limits, or, alternatively, that they are designed for operation on 240 volts and will not, in any case, reach a temperature exceeding about 100°C; and meanwhile, particularly if they consider their radiators are reaching a temperature substantially in excess of

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Patent Examiners

Examiners investigate all patent applications to ensure that the inventions are novel and the specifications are unambiguous. This can involve discussions with Patent Agents and the inventors themselves. It requires a high standard of scientific knowledge and a sound critical faculty.

To qualify, you should normally have a 1st or 2nd class honours degree in Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, Chemistry, or an equivalent qualification, or else corporate membership of one of the major professional institutions. Those of high professional attainment will also be considered.

Age limit: 55 on 31 December, 1975.

Starting salary up to £4,263 plus Threshold Allowance depending on age and experience. Salary scale £2,224-£4,851 including Inner London Weighting **(plus** Threshold Allowance).

Technical Information Analysts & Assistants

Examiners rely on Analysts and Assistant Analysts to search the technical records relating to their investigations, and to reclassify the records to take account of changes in technology. The work requires knowledge of a particular discipline, a wide technical vocabulary, and a good command of English.

To qualify, you should normally have a degree in Physics, Engineering, Mathematics, Chemistry, or the equivalent, but holders of HND or HNC will be considered, as will graduate members of certain professional institutions (eg. RIC, IEE, I Mech E). Training in information retrieval will be given.

Age limits: Analysts should be at least 26 on 31 December 1975, and Assistant Analysts should be at least 20 on that date. There is no upper age limit.

Starting Salary up to £2,871 for Analysts, rising to £3,781 and from £2,002 for Assistants (rising to £3,085) plus Threshold Allowance.

All appointments will be for a fixed period of up to 5 years, with a gratuity on leaving after at least 2 years.
Further details and application form from: Mr C A Degerdon, The Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London WC2A 1AY. Tel: 01-405 8721 ext. 3127.

Patent Office

100°c, are advised to take every precaution to reduce the likelihood of contact between the radiator and the uncovered parts of the body, particularly where young children are concerned.

Appliances which bear the approvals mark of the British Electrotechnical Approvals Board for Domestic Electrical Appliances (BEAB) meet *all* the requirements of British Standard 3456.

New regulations now being prepared (the Electrical Appliances (Safety) Regulations) will prohibit the sale of appliances which generate excessive heat so as to be dangerous and also include safety requirements concerning parts which get hot enough to cause personal injury if touched. These regulations, which cover all aspects of the safety of domestic electrical equipment, will be made as soon as possible.

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

A free pamphlet, *Government Statistics – a brief guide to sources*, gives up-to-date contact points in Departments for further information. You can obtain copies from regional offices of the Department of Industry or by writing to the Central Statistical Office Press and Information Service, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ.

Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report on contraceptive sheaths

Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said on 6 February in the House of Commons that he had accepted the recommendations of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission in their report on the supply of contraceptive sheaths. Mr. Williams said that he was particularly concerned that there should be a substantial reduction in retail prices.

In answer to a question from Leo Abse, MP for Pontypool, Mr. Williams said:

'The report is being published today. The Commission have found that monopoly conditions, as defined in the legislation in force when the reference was made, prevail with respect to the supply of contraceptive sheaths within the United Kingdom because one manufacturer, L R Industries Limited (LRI), supplies at least one-third of the market. As a result of their investigation the Commission have concluded that the "conditions" prevailing by reason of LRI's monopoly position operate and may be expected to operate against the public interest. In addition the Commission have found that:

(a) LRI's pricing policy is a thing done by the company as a result of and for the purpose of preserving the "conditions" and that this policy operates and may be expected to operate against the public interest in that:

(i) it results in excessive profits;

(ii) the differential price structure operated by LRI is both a deterrent to competitors and potential competitors and a means of exploiting the weakness of consumer pressure upon prices; and

(iii) retail prices are higher than they would otherwise be by reason of LRI's own excessive profit margins and of the consequent enlargement of distributive cash margins.

(b) LRI's policy in conducting its vending machine trade is a thing done by LRI as a result of and for the purpose of preserving the "conditions". This policy operates and may be expected to operate against the public interest in that there has been a wasteful use of resources, difficulty of entry for competitors has been increased and the level of selling prices to the public has been even higher than in the ordinary trade.

'In general the Commission consider that LRI's record of behaviour is one of prolonged exploitation of its dominant position for the benefit of its shareholders.

'As remedies for the detriments to the public interest which they have found, the Commission recommend that:

1 LRI's home selling prices for contraceptive sheaths should be so reduced as to bring about a reduction in the average price of 40 per cent from the average price obtained in the year ended 31 March 1973, or, if basic costs are shown to have risen significantly since 31 March 1973, such a reduction as may be expected to provide a return on capital of the order of 20 per cent. The prices should in the future be kept under review.
2 The overall price reduction should be brought about by reducing the whole range of price differences (as between different brands and different customers for the same brand) not only in cash terms but also as percentages of the relevant prices.
3 LRI's selling prices when selling to the public through vending machines should be fixed so as to allow for the payment of site commissions within certain limits.
4 A maximum retail price should be specified for each brand of sheath (excluding 'own brands') which should bear the same percentage relationship to LRI's new trade selling price as the existing retail price bears to LRI's trade selling price; in the case of LRI sheaths sold through vending machines by sellers other than LRI the maximum prices should be the same as those specified for LRI when selling to the public through vending machines.

'As regards retail prices the Commission state the view that it may be worth considering whether it could be arranged that LRI should recommend the appropriate retail selling prices and print their recommendations upon the packages.

'The Commission make it clear that the scope of their recommendations is limited to remedying the "mischiefs" attributable to LRI's pricing policy. However they also state the view that the level of distributive margins, considered as percentage mark-ups on buying prices, is unreasonably high and that, although this cannot be regarded as being a "mischief" arising from LRI's pricing policy, it is a matter for public concern.

'I am requesting the Director General of Fair Trading to consult LRI with a view to obtaining undertakings from them to take action requisite for the purpose of remedying or preventing the adverse effects specified in the report.

'In so doing I shall indicate that I accept the recommendations which the Commission have made as being requisite in the special circumstances of this market.

'I am particularly concerned that there should be a substantial reduction in retail prices. To this end I am also asking the DGFT to consider whether it would not be appropriate, as an exceptional measure, for maximum recommended prices to be speci-

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fied on the packets in which the goods are sold to consumers.'

The reference was made on 4 September 1972 under section 2(1) of the Monopolies and Restrictive Practices (Inquiry and Control) Act 1948 as amended by the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1956, and the Monopolies and Mergers Act 1965. The transitional provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973 enable the report to be dealt with under that Act.

The report was submitted on 13 August 1974.

Copies of the report are available from HMSO (Price 95p net).

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. NRDC is participating in joint ventures with industry on an increasing scale. By supporting projects NRDC makes it possible for individual firms or groups of companies to undertake and accelerate the development and production of new products and processes of national importance. The corporation welcomes submissions in confidence from firms who have promising new projects to launch in any branch of industry or commerce. The conditions for its considering proposals of this kind are set out in a leaflet which may be obtained on application, either by writing to the National Research Development Corporation, PO Box 236, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or by telephoning 01-823 3400.

New Advisory Committee on Fixed Offshore Installations

A new committee has been formed to encourage the greater participation of British engineering expertise in the design and construction of offshore platforms.

The Committee, to be known as the Advisory Committee on Fixed Offshore Installations, will advise the Secretary of State for Energy on problems associated with the designing and construction of fixed offshore oil and gas production platforms. Its chairman will be Sir Kirby Laing, JP, MA, CEng, FICE.

One of its immediate tasks will be to consider how the procedures for assessing the safety of fixed offshore structures can be effectively applied by Certifying Authorities authorised to issue Certificates of Fitness under the provisions of the Offshore Installations (Construction and Survey) Regulations 1974.

The decision to set up this new Committee follows representations to the Secretary of State for Energy for more detailed and authoritative guidance to help British engineers and constructors to get design and construction methods accepted by Certifying Authorities. This applies particularly to concrete structures.

The decision also reflects the Government's desire to ensure that no avoidable delays should occur in the development of the oilfields on the UK Continental Shelf. In this, the timely availability of production platforms is a crucial factor.

In carrying out its tasks the new Committee will complement the work of the Offshore Installations Technical Advisory Committee (OFINTAC) which was set up in 1970 to advise the Secretary of State on the application of the Mineral Working (Offshore Installations) Act, 1971.

The chairman of OFINTAC, Mr. G. L. Hargreaves, is to be vice-chairman of the new Advisory Committee.

The full membership of the new Committee, which includes representatives of the engineering professions, British Standards Institution, the Society for Underwater Technology, the Concrete Society, the Certifying Authorities, oil companies and the Department of Energy is attached, together with the Committee's terms of reference.

The Committee held its first meeting on 7 February.

Advisory Committee on Fixed Offshore Installations

CHAIRMAN	
Sir Kirby Laing, JP, MA, CEng, FICE.	Immediate past-president, Institution of Civil Engineers; joint chairman, the Laing Group of Companies.
VICE-CHAIRMAN	
G. L. Hargreaves, BSc, CEng, FICE.	Consultant to Department of Energy; chairman, Offshore Installations Technical Advisory Committee; chairman, BSI Code of Practice Committee.
Consultants	
Sir Ralph Freeman, CVO, CBE, MA, CEng, FICE.	Past-president, Institution of Civil Engineers; Senior partner, Freeman Fox & Partners; chairman, Offshore Structures Committee, Association of Consulting Engineers.
L. R. Creasy, CB, OBE, BSc, CEng, FIStructE, FICE.	Immediate past-president, Institution of Structural Engineers; consultant, Alan Marshall & Partners; former director of Civil Engineering Development, PSA, DoE.
Construction Industry	
John A. Derrington, BSc, DIC, CEng, FIStructE, FICE.	Head of Design Group, Sir Robert McAlpine & Sons Ltd., vice-president, Institution of Structural Engineers; past-president, the Concrete Society.
J. C. Chapman, PhD, CEng, FIStructE, FICE, FRINA.	Technical director, George Wimpey & Co. Ltd., former director, Constructional Steel Research & Development Organisation (CONSTRADO); Council member, IStructE; formerly reader, Imperial College of Science and Technology; con-

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Research and Development	
A. R. Collins, MBE, DSc, CEng, FIStructE, FICE.	Past-president, Institution of Structural Engineers; director, Construction Industry Research & Information Association; member, British National Committee for Ocean Eng.; member, Oceanic Affairs Committee.
R. E. Rowe, MA (Cantab), ScD, CEng, FIStructE, FICE.	Hon. officer, Institution of Structural Engineers; director, Research & Development Division, Cement & Concrete Association; member of various Concrete Society Committees.
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	
C. H. Hunt, BSc, FIMechE, MIEE, FIProdE.	Offshore Supplies Office.
P. O. Atkinson, BSc, Tech.	Petroleum Production Division.
CERTIFYING AUTHORITIES	
T. A. Lamplough, BSc, CEng, FRINA.	Head of Ocean Engineering Department, Lloyd's Register of Shipping.
OIL COMPANIES	
T. E. Pitkethly	General manager, Engineering Department, BP Ltd.

Planning permission for first SGHWR nuclear power stations

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has announced that consents have been given for the construction of two steam generating heavy water reactor (SGHWR) power stations. The sites are at Sizewell in Suffolk and Torness, East Lothian.

Before work can start the Central Electricity Generating Board and the South of Scotland Electricity Board must obtain nuclear site licences from the Health and Safety Executive. The Boards must also seek the approval of their respective Secretaries of State for their investment programmes.

Mr. Varley announced the decisions in the House of Commons on 5 February, in a written answer to a question from Mr. John Evans (Newton). He said: 'I have today granted consent under Section 2 of the Electric Lighting Act 1909, together with deemed planning permission, for a steam generating heavy water reactor nuclear generating station on the Sizewell B site in Suffolk. My Right Hon. Friend, the Secretary of State for Scotland, has given his consent to an SGHWR station at Torness, East Lothian. These consents will enable any necessary site work to be undertaken in preparation for the construction of the stations. But before work can start on the nuclear installations themselves, the Boards must also obtain nuclear site licences from the Health and Safety Executive.'

Mr. Varley's consent follows the Government's decision, announced on 10 July last year, to adopt the SGHWR for the next programme of nuclear power stations. The initial programme is for 4,000 MW of SGHWR generating capacity to be ordered over the next four years.

The proposed Sizewell station would have a capacity of approximately 2,600 MW, consisting of four units of approximately 660 MW. The SGHWR station proposed by the South of Scotland Electricity Board at Torness, East Lothian, would consist of two units of about 660 MW.

'A new spirit in coal industry'

'There is a new spirit and confidence in the coal industry which is getting the country a lot of badly needed coal,' said Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, speaking on 3 February to a conference of the Nottinghamshire area NUM at Sutton-in-Ashfield.

'Following the Coal Industry Examination, the Government has not just sat back and let things drift. We have just published our Coal Bill which will implement or help along needed measures announced in the Final Report.

- It will assist the NCB in meeting the cost of the pneumoconiosis scheme as it affects existing sufferers.
- It will help the Coal Board get access to opencast land.
- It will give the Coal Board the right to mine coal in places affected by copyhold.

'An obvious sign of the new determination and commitment can be seen in the recent OMS and production figures. In the last typical week before the Christmas break, OMS reached 47.5 cwt. That means that over a six-month period OMS increased by 5 cwt a man-shift. A continued, steady, build-up is just what we need.

'But when I talk about commitment, I really mean a continued and continuous commitment – one which will enable the *Plan for Coal* to succeed and home produced coal to meet increased demand for a fuel we all believe in.'

New member for Energy Conservation Council

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, has appointed the Hon. Edward David Grant Davies as a member of the Advisory Council on Energy Conservation. The appointment took effect from 1 February.

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Technology News

More Government support for R and D in industry

Industry is doing more Department of Industry-supported research and development. And the Department has allocated more funds for its research requirements boards to spend on projects within industry. These facts emerge from the Department's *Report on Research and Development* 1974*, published on 10 February.

The report, the Department's first, reveals that the Department will spend £83 million during the financial year 1974-75. Expenditure in 1973-4 was £70 million. The Department's predecessor, the Department of Trade and Industry, spent £57 million in 1972-73.

Most of the field which last year's Department of Trade and Industry R and D report covered is also covered by this report. The remainder of this work has been divided between the Department of Energy, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection.

A significant section of the report is devoted to civil aeronautics. This accounted for more than £17 million worth of R and D expenditure. More than half of this – £9,250,000 – was directly spent on airframe and aeroengine research.

There has been a redirection of effort under the control of the Department's Research Requirements Boards set up about two years ago. Membership of the boards has been designed to give a strong voice to industry.

Concern over future availability of natural resources is reflected in a doubling of expenditure on R and D concerned with exploration and exploitation of the earth – from £2.7 million in 1973/74 to £5.6 million in 1974/75.

Major programmes and projects are described in Part II of the Report. Highlights include:

Scrap and waste processing: Scrap and waste work at Warren Spring Laboratory has been reorganised to form the Department of Industry Recovery Service. The Laboratory provides an advisory service for industry on recycling and recovery. The service also gathers data and undertakes research on the nature and treatment of specific arisings of waste.

Linear motors: Three contracts have been placed with industry for assessment and development of linear electric motors.

Pollution control: Programmes at Warren Spring Laboratory include odour abatement, catalysts for motor vehicle exhausts, oil skimmers for use in harbours and inland waters, and techniques for cleaning contaminated beaches, piers, promenades and other structures.

Marine traffic studies: The National Physical Laboratory, in addition to its work on ship propulsion, resistance, manoeuvring and other operational characteristics, studies behaviour of marine traffic in congested sea areas.

Computer-aided design: Studies on integrated design of chemical processes from initial conception to detail required for manufacture and erection of plant are being pursued by the Computer Aided Design Centre (CADC).

Microelectronics: This programme is designed to develop Britain's capability in microelectronics. In the first 15 months of the scheme 70 projects were authorised for telecommunication, industrial control, computer and instrumentation application involving a commitment of £2.5 million.

Space: Britain, together with other European countries, collaborates internationally on space satellites which ESRO – soon to become the European Space Agency – is developing. The Department of Industry concentrates on communication and other application satellites. This is to make most effective use of the limited space technology resources available. The Department, as well as directly supporting ESRO programmes, is helping British space technology develop with the objective of further strengthening Britain's role in future international space co-operation.

Battery-electric bus: Two 28-passenger prototype battery-electric city centre buses have been manufactured with Department of Industry support. They are currently on trials. These will involve experimental service in 14 towns.

Computer networks and data communication: Since 1966 the National Physical Laboratory has taken a lead in advancing the design of computer networks. Its work is concentrated on packet switched networks. Related work at Harwell has been formed into a joint programme. Future work at NPL will now take in adaptive routing and hierarchical networks.

* *Report on Research and Development, 1974*, HM Stationery Office, price £1.10.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Energy research and development

A report* on Research and Development during the period April 1973-March 1974 has been published by the Department of Energy. It is the first such report by the Department, which was set up in January 1974, some two months before the end of the period under review.

The report describes:

civil nuclear research and development exercised mainly through the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA);

research into the health and safety of mineworkers, including the Safety in Mines Research Establishment (SMRE);

research in support of the exploitation of offshore oil and gas;

research into novel forms of energy;

research carried out by the nationalised fuel industries;

international co-operation in energy research and development.

In the financial year 1973-74 the SMRE spent £1.3 million on a wide-ranging research programme which included accident studies, dust explosions, ventilation, detection and estimation of gases as well as studies to ensure the reliability of mechanical components used in mining. Many of the research projects undertaken by SMRE have important applications in industries other than mining.

More than £14 million was spent on research by outside bodies on behalf of the Department. Subjects covered ranged from offshore oil technology to assessments of novel forms of energy.

The Secretary of State for Energy has a responsibility towards research and development programmes undertaken by the nationalised fuel industries and the UKAEA. In 1973-74 more than £96 million was spent on research and development by these industries. Research was largely directed at improving the efficiency of the industries' operations and increasing safety for workers.

The report also gives details about international co-operation in research and development programmes related to the coal industry and nuclear energy through the ECSC Treaty and the Euratom and EEC Treaties.

* Department of Energy *Report on Research and Development 1973-74*, HMSO, price 51p.

NRDC inventions

Among recent inventions which the National Research Development Corporation is currently promoting are the following:

Explosively-operated rapid-release valve

A valve that rapidly releases gas or liquid stored at high pressure by using an explosive charge has been designed at the Safety in Mines Research Establishment, Sheffield.

The diagram reproduced here shows the valve clamped between two flanges in a pipe with a high-pressure sealing ring. A metal plate is used to contain a gas or liquid under high pressure; the plate has two concentric circular grooves cut in opposite faces to produce a thin-walled section. Two channels are drilled into the edges of the plate so as to connect with the groove on the low-pressure side. Line-cutting explosive is located in this grove and shaped priming charges and detonators located in each side channel. The thin-walled section is ruptured when the line-cutting explosive laid beside the wall is detonated.

A metal or plastics cup containing a flame-inhibiting material may be fitted to prevent the rupturing charge igniting any explosive mixture on the low-pressure side of valve. If the cup contains low-density material it may also provide an acoustic mis-match with any liquid present on the low-pressure side and reduce the possibility of shock damage to the pipe.

With this design the explosive charge required for a given wall thickness can be calculated precisely.

A high working pressure of 40 bar has been achieved with this valve and much higher pressures are theoretically possible. Other features include: a 10-volt operating voltage, a fast response time of 2-3 milliseconds, and a large margin of safety against accidental rupture.

Companies interested in manufacturing the valve should contact Ian Grant, of NRDC's Mechanical and Civil Engineering Group.

Automatic frequency-control system with wide 'pull-in bandwidth'

An automatic frequency-control (afc) system that is able to restore itself to a locked condition over a much wider bandwidth than that usually associated with conventional afc systems has been designed by the Ministry of Defence's Electrical Quality Assurance Directorate – Aquila establishment, Bromley, Kent. The system could have application in almost any receiver incorporating afc.

The key feature of the new system is the inclusion of a voltage-controlled reactive element in the centre-frequency-determining resonant circuit.

Using proprietary components, the system is expected to be particularly useful in tests in which equipment is switched off between individual measurements and the input frequency is liable to wander appreciably from its desired value. The system has been tested so far at centre frequencies of 0.5, 1 and 10 MHz.

Companies interested in incorporating the system in their products should contact Peter Thompson, of NRDC's Electrical Engineering and Electronics Group.

A high-speed waveform recorder

Since 1969, the NRDC has been supporting a small programme at the University of Manchester aimed at developing a novel type of storage cathode-ray tube (crt) to be used for signal averaging. A 16-channel laboratory prototype has been built, and the NRDC would now like to be advised of companies which would be interested in completing the development and assessment of the instrument and in its subsequent commercial exploitation.

With this waveform recorder, the electron beam in a crt is focused so as to form a beam whose cross-section at the face of the tube is narrow (~0.5 mm) in one direction but broad in the other direction (~1 cm). This rectangular beam falls upon a special faceplate consisting of a series of parallel electrically-isolated strips of aluminium that are also narrow and broad in the same directions. The electron beam can be scanned across the strips in the narrow direction.

The signal being investigated is fed to the crt electrodes controlling the broad deflection of the beam and the strips are located within the tube so that the amplitude of the signal determines how much of the beam's area falls upon any particular aluminium strip.

Several different types of faceplate have been designed.

A series of reports prepared at the University of Manchester can be obtained, and the laboratory prototype instrument is available for further experimental work. Interested companies should contact Peter Thompson, of NRDC's Electrical Engineering and Electronics Group.

Glass-fibre-reinforced gypsum

The NRDC is responsible for the exploitation of glass-fibre-reinforced gypsum (grg) and has already granted patent licences and know-how licences in the United Kingdom, Sweden, New Zealand and Japan.

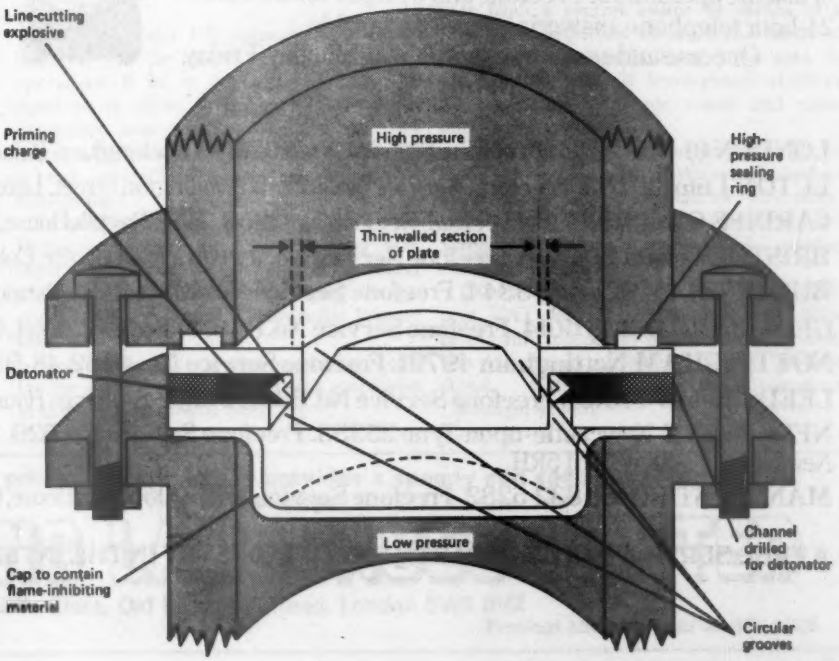
When glass fibres are dispersed in gypsum plaster, it is transformed from a brittle material to a remarkably tough one, with considerable improvements in impact, tensile and flexural strength.

Moulded grg components could be designed so that the reinforcing fibres are concentrated in regions particularly subject to stress, such as around bolt holes or on corners. The material also has exceptional fire-resisting qualities, making it a suitable replacement for asbestos-based materials.

Inquiries should be made to Gordon Rollinson, of NRDC's Mechanical and Civil Engineering Group.

The address of the National Research Development Corporation is Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL (tel. 01-828 3400).

A cable duct and cover made in glass-reinforced gypsum at the Building Research Establishment for evaluation by the Central Electricity Generating Board.



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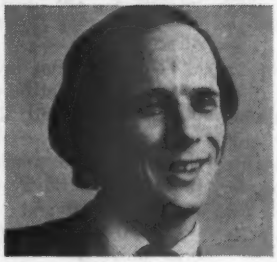

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Michael Meacher to launch school science exhibition on provincial tour

Michael Meacher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, is today (13 February) formally launching the 'School Science and Everyday Life' exhibition on a provincial tour, which will take it to Nottingham, Sheffield and other centres throughout the country. The ceremony is taking place at the Inner London Education Authority's Technology, Science and Craft Centre in Exton Street, London SE1, where the exhibition has been on show since December.

The exhibition is sponsored and financed by the Department of Industry on behalf of the interdepartmental Committee on Publicity for Engineering and Technology, which aims to help schools to become better informed about the challenges and variety of engineering in our highly technological society.

Although designed primarily for middle school and senior pupils, the exhibition should also have interest for parents and teachers. It is intended to give an insight, including by means of working models, into how simple science is applied to solve industrial and medical problems. Construction of the 12 models in the exhibition has been carried out under the direction of Dr. G. C. Sneed – now at the Science Museum, London – in the workshops of the Electrical Engineering Department of the Imperial College of Science.

BA for the Advancement of Science annual meeting

The 137th annual meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science will be held at the University of Surrey, Guildford, from 27 August-3 September 1975. The presidential address will be delivered in Guildford Cathedral by the President of the BA, Sir Bernard Lovell, who is Professor of Radio Astronomy and Director of Jodrell Bank.

In addition to an extensive range of lectures, there will be three symposia on: the work of the research councils; public knowledge versus personal privacy; and the buildings we deserve. A programme of visits to places of scientific interest is also being arranged, and a number of science and technology films will be screened, including entries for the 1975 British Association Film and Television Awards.

Accommodation, including of the self-catering type and for children, is being made available in university premises, although alternative hotel accommodation is also being arranged. Applications for attendance and accommodation must be made by 16 July. Details: British Association Office, University of Surrey, Guildford GU2 5XH.

Diving Inspector calls for international diving safety regulations

'The existence of legislation covering safety, health and welfare of the diver does not necessarily ensure his safety. It is only with the complete co-operation of everyone concerned, nationally and internationally, that we can carry out this very difficult task, Commander S. A. Warner, the Department of Energy's Diving Inspector, said in America last month.

Speaking at the 6th Annual Diving Symposium in Morgan City, Louisiana, Commander Warner said:

'British diving safety regulations, introduced at the beginning of this year are, I believe, the most comprehensive to be made by any country in the world. Norway, our major companion country in the North Sea, has accepted British diving regulations almost to the letter, and she now proposes to introduce legislation along precisely the same lines.

'This is a clear example of how international co-operation can work to bring real benefits to people who earn their living by diving in often hostile waters.'

Commander Warner outlined the new British regulations and expressed the hope that most of the statutory requirements could be achieved by persuasion.

'Major diving companies are responsible organisations, and they certainly do not want a record of accidents and fatalities,' he said. 'Apart from anything else, accidents are bad for business.

'Even so, under UK regulations, a diving inspector has the power to stop all diving operations if he is not satisfied with the standard of safety. I am sure that you all appreciate how much power this is. After all, we are talking of a minimum of $60,000 a day operational costs of a drilling installation.'

In addition to the existing regulations, the Department of Energy is considering how legislation might be introduced to bring diving activities from pipe-laying barges under statutory control, Commander Warner said.

The Department is also producing notes for the general guidance of diving employers in the UK Continental Shelf.

A Moscow seminar on automated process control

A seminar on the use of automated process control systems in industry is being held in Moscow from 26-31 May 1975 by the Working Party on Automation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. The seminar is being held at the Institute for Control Problems (Automation and Telemechanics) at the invitation of the Government of the USSR.

Subjects to be discussed during the plenary sessions include: algorithms for the control of technological processes; identification of technological processes; preparation and redesign of technological processes for the purpose of developing and applying an automated process control system; hardware and software; economic efficiency of automated process control systems; international cooperation and transfer of technology.

There will be special meetings to discuss process control in the chemical and oil-refining, metallurgical, food, mechanical engineering, construction and building materials, pulp and paper, and electrical power industries.

Visits to industrial plants where automated processes are in operation will be arranged.

Further details: United Nations Information Service, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

District heating

Reg Freeson, Minister for Housing and Construction, is to open the first national conference on district heating in Brighton on 22 April.

The three-day event, the first of its kind, is being organised by the District Heating Association under the title Design for Living. District heating is the supply of heat from a central source by means of a network of pipelines to serve the needs of the various types of building in an area. It can cater for a small development of 20 or 30 houses up to whole towns and communities of thousands.

Other conference contributions will be made by speakers from Whitehall, leaders of the fuel supply industries – electricity, gas, oil and coal – and experts from local authorities with experience of running established schemes.

Conference fee is £75 plus VAT (£70 plus VAT for DHA members) and copies of the full prospectus can be obtained from the Association at Bedford House, Stafford Road, Caterham, Surrey (telephone Caterham 42323).

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Parliament

Monday, 3 February

Investment in manufacturing industry

Dr. M. S. Miller (East Kilbride) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, what steps he is taking to encourage the development of, and investment in, manufacturing industry in the UK.

Mr. Benn said: 'The Government's policies for the regeneration of British industry were outlined in the White Paper Command 5710 published in August 1974. I have brought before the House a new Industry Bill to give effect to those policies.'

Nationalisation

Mr. Eldon Griffiths (Bury St. Edmunds) asked when the Bill for the nationalisation of the shipbuilding, aircraft and guided missile industries would be introduced, and if it is the Government's intention that these measures, if Parliament agrees, should pass into law this year.

'I intend to introduce a legislation to bring these industries into public ownership as soon as possible, in the present Session, so that vesting can take place in early 1976,' answered Mr. Benn.

Mr. Peter Morrison (City of Chester) asked Mr. Benn if he would make it his policy to consult every employee in the aircraft industry in respect of his proposals for nationalisation of that industry.

'Our consultation process provides all interested parties with the opportunity to put forward their views,' said Mr. Benn.

Shipbuilding and repairing industries

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry, would accept the submission of the Shipbuilders and Repairers National Association that ship-repairing companies should be excluded from his nationalisation proposals, as their activities are different from shipbuilding.

Mr. Heffer answered: 'The SRNA's submission was carefully considered, but the Government does not intend to vary its decision that the larger ship-repair companies should be taken into public ownership. My Rt. Hon. Friend will make a full statement as soon as possible.'

Mr. Geraint Howells (Cardigan) asked how many firms in the ship-repairing industry have applied for financial aid to the latest available date.

Mr. Meacher answered that, to date, three companies engaged wholly or mainly in ship-repair have made application for financial aid.

Mr. Howells also asked about the number of ship-repairing firms in Wales.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'There is one major ship-repair group, and five other companies wholly or partly engaged in ship-repair, in Wales. There are also a number of small firms which are engaged in general engineering and some ship-repairing activities.'

National Enterprise Board

Mr. Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked when appointments would be made to the NEB.

'The Board will be formed when the Industry Bill receives the Royal Assent,' said Mr. Heffer. 'Appointments to it will be announced shortly afterwards.'

Government shareholdings in companies

'How many meetings has the Secretary of State for Industry had with the employees in each of the companies in which the Government has taken a shareholding since 1 March 1974?' asked Mr. John Cope (South Gloucestershire).

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The only companies in which the Government has acquired a shareholding since 1 March 1974 are Brown Boveri Ltd., and Scientific and Medical Instruments Ltd., (through a rearrangement of the Government's previous holding in the George Kent Group), Court Line's shipbuilding, ship repairing and marine engineering interests and Kearney Trecker Marwin Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd. My Rt. Hon. Friend has had two meetings with the representatives of employees of the George Kent Group. He has met both management and trade union representatives of Court Shipbuilders. No similar meetings have taken place with Kearney Trecker Marwin Machine Tools (Holdings) Ltd.'

Industrial Development Advisory Board

Mr. Tom King (Bridgwater) asked if the full texts would be laid before Parliament of all the reports of the Industrial Development Advisory Board and regional development board reports that advised against the provision of public money to particular projects.

Mr. Benn said: 'The procedure was laid down in Section 9 of the Industry Act 1972 which sets out the circumstances in which advice given to me must be made public. I shall certainly keep the House as fully informed as I can.'

British Leyland

Mr. Sydney Bidwell (Ealing, Southall) inquired about discussions with British Leyland.

'The team led by Sir Don Ryder is at present conducting in consultation with the British Leyland management and trades unions, an overall assessment of British Leyland's present situation and future prospects,' said Mr. Benn. 'I have undertaken to report to the House as soon as possible on the team's recommendations and their financial implications.'

Ferranti Company

Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked if the Government intends to increase its holding in the Ferranti Company; and, if so, what percentage share it intends to hold.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'In consideration for any financial support the Government may give to Ferranti Ltd., we shall require a substantial part of the shares of the company. The size of that shareholding will depend upon the extent of the support to be given and the most suitable capital structure for the company.'

Government aid to industry

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked about the total aid to private industry from public funds other than under the Industry Act 1972 since 1 March 1974, such as regional employment premiums, research and development, project launching aid, &c.

'About £400 million net of repayments', said Mr. MacKenzie.

Co-operative Development Agency

Mr. Stanley Newens (Harlow) asked about the possible introduction of legislation to establish a Co-operative Development Agency.

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Anthony Wedgwood Benn
Ministers of State: Eric Heffer
Lord Beswick
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Michael Meacher

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Mr. Heffer said: 'The Government are considering the proposal to establish a Co-operative Development Agency, and are in touch with the Co-operative Union and other interests. No decisions have yet been taken.'

Worker's co-operatives

Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) inquired about the expected profit in the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 by the workers' co-operatives at Kirkby and Meriden; and whether these co-operatives have entered into planning agreements with the Department of Industry.

'Both of these important innovations in industrial organisation expect to become profitable after initial losses,' answered Mr. Heffer. 'I cannot however disclose their individual financial forecasts. No arrangements for information beyond the normal procedures for monitoring government investment have been made.'

Mr. John Stanley (Tonbridge and Malling) asked what were the particular grounds for making a grant to the Kirkby Manufacturing and Engineering Co-operative under the Industry Act.

Mr. Benn said: 'The Government decided to provide a grant because it has confidence in the workers at Kirkby who, after the failure of the five previous private owners to provide continuing employment, expressed their readiness to assume responsibility for the success of the enterprise, to maintain jobs in an area of unacceptably high and persistent unemployment and submitted plans to do so'.

Mr. Benn was also asked, by Mr. Les Huckfield (Nuneaton), to make a statement on progress towards setting up a workers' co-operative at Norton Villiers Triumph.

He said: 'I am very pleased to be able to report that the workers at the Small Heath Plant of Norton Villiers Triumph Ltd., no longer oppose the setting up of the Co-operative at Meriden. I hope that Norton Villiers Triumph and the Co-operative will soon be in a position to conclude the agreements which are a condition of Government assistance to the Co-operative.'

Mr. Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) asked how the Secretary of State for Industry proposes to monitor the financial performance and to provide for accountability to Parliament for expenditure of public funds by his department in grants to workers' co-operatives.

Mr. Heffer replied: 'As with all offers of assistance under the Industry Act, assistance to workers co-operatives will be monitored in a manner commensurate with the amount of public money involved. The normal arrangements governing accountability to Parliament will apply.'

Processing machinery

Mr. Tam Dalyell (West Lothian) asked what consultations are taking place with the engineering industry with a view to increasing the production of processing machinery of the varieties in demand from OPEC countries.

'My department is in constant touch with the engineering industry in general about the balance of supply and demand,' said Mr. Meacher. 'Joint consultations between Government and both sides of the process plant industry in particular are also undertaken in the Process Plant Working Party of NEDO and in the NEDC itself.'

'Scottish Daily News'

Mr. Tam Dalyell asked for a statement on official discussions on 28 January with representatives of the Scottish Daily News.

'My meeting on 28 January was to enable me to ascertain the progress being made towards establishing the *Scottish Daily News*,' said Mr. Benn.

Manufacturing units by employment size

Mr. Ian Grist (Cardiff North) wanted to know by standard economic planning region the number of companies employing under 100 and under 500, respectively, showing the total number employed by each group in each region and indicating where possible how many of these companies are privately owned.

Mr. G. MacKenzie replied: 'The only information available in my department on this subject relates to local manufacturing units (rather than companies) recorded in the register of businesses maintained by the Business Statistics Office (BSO). The latest date for which a size breakdown by region is available is 1972.

'Because the BSO's register of businesses is not wholly reliable for units employing 1-10 persons no regional breakdown has been attempted. It is estimated, however, that in 1972 there were about 50,000 units employing in total about 250,000 in this size range in manufacturing industry. The detailed regional data for the size bands 11-99 employees and 100-499 employees are given in the accompanying table.

'The employment figures are, in the main, taken from Census of Production returns and are the average numbers employed in the units over a period of 12 months as reported in the Census. Additional employment information is obtained from the Annual Census of Employment.

'These and other figures on the employment size of UK manufacturing units will be published by the BSO shortly in the Business Monitor Series.

'Information on the ownership of these units is not readily available.'

SUMMARY TABLE FOR UNITS EMPLOYING 1-499

Country/region (as at 1972)		Employment size group 0-10	11-99	100-499
North	a	..	1,692	550
	b	..	55,651	128,154
Yorkshire and Humberside	a	..	4,462	1,285
	b	..	147,721	271,688
East Midlands	a	..	3,447	981
	b	..	116,209	204,554
East Anglia	a	..	1,256	281
	b	..	41,996	61,807
South East	a	..	15,568	2,767
	b	..	467,119	574,930
South West	a	..	2,363	569
	b	..	76,317	120,651
West Midlands	a	..	5,476	1,402
	b	..	180,167	299,492
North West	a	..	5,767	1,608
	b	..	192,750	350,679
Wales	a	..	1,367	462
	b	..	45,747	99,804
Scotland	a	..	3,800	928
	b	..	123,840	197,755
Northern Ireland	a	..	746	307
	b	..	27,918	67,386
Total	a	50,000*	45,942	11,140
	b	250,000*	1,475,435	2,376,900

Notes:
a Number of units.
b Employment.
.. Not available.
* Estimate.

Civil aviation projects

Mr. Stephen Hastings (Mid-Bedfordshire) asked for an estimate of the number of design teams in the western world, excluding the USA, capable of designing a complete civil airliner.

Mr. Meacher said: 'I understand that in the western world outside the United States there are seven major firms with design teams capable of undertaking complete aircraft with 50 seats or more and about twice this number capable of undertaking smaller aircraft or parts of large aircraft.'

Mr. Robert Adley asked what new civil aviation projects would be undertaken by the projected nationalised British aerospace manufacturing organisation.

Mr. Meacher said: 'Beyond the development of existing aircraft there will be the next generation of aircraft to replace those at present in service. What projects are undertaken will depend upon operators' requirements and the size of the potential market.'

Textiles

Dr. Keith Hampson (Ripon) and Mr. John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam) inquired about steps to help the wool and textile industries.

Mr. Meacher said: 'I believe that the present difficulties are due mainly to lack of demand in the textile industry. It is to be expected that demand will recover if the present high level of consumer buying of textiles continues. The Government has taken further steps recently to contain disruptive imports.'

Mr. Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked if an automatic regulator for the import of textiles would be established.

'I am examining in detail the value of and the implications for the use of statistical criteria as a guide to action by Government to restrict imports of textiles,' Mr. Meacher said.

Footwear industry

Mr. Michael Latham (Melton) asked about the progress of the Under-Secretary of State's discussions with the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation regarding problems of the footwear industry.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'I invited the footwear industry to make proposals on how Government and industry together might determine how best to assure a successful future for the industry. On 29 January the Footwear Federation wrote to my officials to take up that invitation formally. Officials are therefore in the process of seeking nominations from employers' and employees' organisations to a steering group to oversee a study of the industry.'

Post Office telecommunications

Mr. T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked why the level of capital expenditure on telecommunications is about £500 million per annum whereas the annual turnover is only £1,200 million.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'Subject to the availability of resources, the level of investment is determined by the demand for expanded and improved services which is still very high. I am satisfied that the current level of investment is justified. Turnover is related to the level of services used and to pricing policies and has been affected by price restraint in recent years. But the Post Office has now referred proposals for tariff increases to the Price Commission.'

Mr. Skeet then asked why the Secretary of State for Industry is securing loans for Post Office telecommunications bearing 10 to 14 per cent interest when the return on capital investment in recent years has been only about 7 per cent.

'The rate at which I lend money to the Post Office is governed by the National Loans Act, 1968,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'The low current return on capital is the consequence of price restraint, for which I am paying compensation directly to the Post Office. The Government's policy of phasing out subsidies for price restraint should of course lead to higher rates of return on capital.'

Postal charges

Mr. John Pardoe (North Cornwall) asked if, before the proposed increases in postal charges are approved, an independent inquiry into the efficiency of the postal services will be set up.

'No, Sir', said Mr. MacKenzie. 'The proposed increases are already under scrutiny by the Price Commission and the Post Office Users' National Council. The efficiency of the postal services can best be helped by a speedy return to economic pricing.'

Postal deliveries

Mr. Ralph Howell (North Norfolk) asked what percentage of letters are delivered by first and second deliveries, respectively.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'I understand from the Post Office that on average Monday to Friday 86 per cent of letters are delivered on the first and 14 per cent on the second delivery.'

Mr. Geoffrey Dodsworth (South West Hertfordshire) asked if a general direction would be given to the Post Office not to abandon Saturday postal deliveries.

'No, Sir,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'But, if the Post Office proposed to abolish these deliveries, it would have a statutory duty to consult the Post Office Users' National Council and I should then be concerned with the outcome of the discussion.'

Waste paper

Sir David Renton (Huntingdonshire) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would discourage the wasteful use of paper by companies, public authorities, including nationalised industries, pressure groups and other bodies, in the production of publications, frequently on glossy paper, for prestige purposes.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'I expect that, in the current economic climate, those responsible for producing such documents would avoid the use of high grade papers for purely prestige purposes and indeed reduce the quantity of any paper used for such purposes. The question of the most effective means of discouraging such practices is one of the matters being put to the Waste Management Advisory Council which was recently set up by the Government.'

Motor industry

Mr. David Madel (South Bedfordshire) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry is satisfied with the contribution of the motor industry in providing employment in development areas.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The motor industry already makes an important contribution to employment in the assisted areas. But we keep under constant review how this might be strengthened.'

North Staffordshire

Mr. Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent South) inquired about steps to diversify the industrial structure of North Staffordshire.

'I agree that diversification would be desirable but we have to give priority to the needs of the assisted areas where unemployment rates are much higher,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Northern Region

Mr. Giles Radice (Chester-le-Street) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry is satisfied with industrial progress in the Northern Region.

'We are continually working to promote industrial development in the Northern Region,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Sunderland

Mr. Frederick Willey (Sunderland North) asked about the number of men and women employed in Government-owned factories in Sunderland at the latest available date; and the figures a year earlier.

Mr. MacKenzie told him that in December 1974 there were 5,298 men and 3,756 women employed and in December 1973 5,800 men and 4,201 women.

Nation Life Insurance

Mr. Peter Emery (Honiton) asked what steps are being taken by the Secretary of State for Trade, to ensure that policyholders in Nation Life can obtain as soon as possible some settlement for policies that they have taken out.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'The affairs of Nation Life Insurance Co. Ltd., are under the control of the Court, and my Department is giving the Liquidator all the assistance it properly can.

'The Liquidator announced on 20 January that a group of insurance companies may be able to offer modified continuation rights to holders of ordinary life assurance and annuity contracts. It is his intention to make an interim payment against the claims of all policy holders in the liquidation as soon as he is legally in a position to do so.'

Non-oil trade deficits

Mr. Peter Blaker (Blackpool South) inquired the percentage increase in Great Britain's non-oil trade deficit with the EEC, EFTA, the Commonwealth, the USA and the rest of the world, respectively, between 1972 and 1974.

Mr. Deakins said: 'On an Overseas Trade Statistics basis the percentage changes between 1972 and 1974 in our crude trade deficits with the EEC(8), EFTA and the Commonwealth were +294, +180 and +43 respectively. There was a surplus of £42 million in our non-oil trade with the USA in 1972 and a deficit of £477 million in 1974. For the rest of the world there was a surplus in both 1972 and 1974, the percentage increase between the two years being +55.'

Imports of motor vehicles

Mr. John Parker (Barking, Dagenham) asked about the number of motor vehicles imported from Japan in each of the last three years; what percentage this is of the total sale of motor vehicles in this country; and how it compares with the percentage of British-made motor vehicles sold in Japan for the same years.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information in respect of cars:

	1972	1973	1974
UK imports from Japan (thousand vehicles)	69	97	87
UK imports from Japan during year as percentage of total UK registrations in year	4.1	5.8	6.8
Japanese imports from the UK as percentage of total Japanese registrations	0.05	0.04	0.09 Jan.-Aug.

'Full information in respect of commercial vehicles is not available, but by comparison the trade is small.'

Imports of textiles etc

Mr. Cyril Smith asked for figures showing the total annual volume of imports of yarn in 1973 and 1974, respectively.

'For yarns of all fibres, 129 and 161 thousand metric tons for 1973 and 1974 respectively,' said Mr. Deakins.

Mr. Smith also asked for information about the average retail price of imported shirts from Hong Kong and Portugal during 1974; and whether these prices are lower than the production costs of British shirts.

Mr. Deakins said: 'Official statistics do not make possible the accurate identification of the retail price of shirts from particular sources. We are advised, however, that a typical retail price for a shirt imported from a low cost source such as Hong Kong or Portugal would be £2 to £3 and that the production cost of a shirt made in the United Kingdom would be within the same range, depending on the source and the cost of the material used.'

Information was asked for by Mr. John Osborn

(Sheffield, Hallam) on the value of wool and textiles, including synthetic fibres, imported in the current year, and compared with average annual figures for the last five years and 10 years, and on these figures as a percentage of total consumption.

Mr. Deakins gave the value of imports as follows:

£ million cif

	Raw wool	Textiles
Average of 10 years 1965-74	101	337
Average of five years 1970-74	97	464
1974	115	750

The estimated share of the UK market taken by imports of textiles in recent years was:

	Per cent
1968	13
1970	13
1971	16
1972	17
1973	20
1974 1st half	24

Estimates for years before 1968 and for 1969 are not available.

The share of the UK consumption of raw wool taken by imports in terms of value is not available. In terms of quantity (clean weight equivalent) it was:

	Per cent
Average of 10 years 1964-73	92
Average of five years 1969-73	89
1974 1st three quarters	76

Commissioners of Irish Lights

Mr. John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest) asked why Dublin is the only local authority in Ireland to appoint Commissioners of Irish Lights; and what are the nationality and qualifications of the other Commissioners.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The constitution of the Commissioners stems originally from an Act of 1786 and has not been altered in subsequent legislation. There are no specific qualifications prescribed for the co-opted members but in practice they are broadly representative of shipping and commerce.

'Information is not readily available regarding the nationality of the Commissioners who serve voluntarily. All are resident in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland and I am sending the Hon. Member a list of their names.'

Noise certification

Mr. Andrew Bennett (Stockport North) asked if the discussion on noise certification of existing aircraft has reached a conclusion; if so what conclusion; and if not when it is expected to be concluded.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'In view of the important international implications of any action in this field, a United Kingdom Delegation is in Montreal at the moment participating in a meeting of the International Civil Aviation Organisation Committee on Aircraft noise, at which the question of the noise certification of existing aircraft will be discussed. We shall not be able to reach any conclusion on this matter until we have had time to consider fully the outcome of these talks.'

Weights and Measures Inspectors

Mr. John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked what action is being taken to recruit and train the additional Weights and Measures Inspectors and similar expert staff needed to enforce the increasing volume of consumer protection legislation

Mr. Williams replied: 'Local authorities are responsible for the recruitment and training of Weights and Measures Inspectors and other expert staff. An essential feature of the 1975/6 Rate Support Grant settlement is that there should be no expansion in present local authority staff numbers other than that necessary to meet inescapable commitments. However new consumer protection legislation comes within this category.'

Metric measures in the dairy industry

Mr. John Biffen (Oswestry) asked if discussions would be held with the European Council of Ministers and Commission to ensure that all directives and regulations relating to the dairy industry specify metric and imperial measures, in view of the popular preference to retain traditional units of measurement in the dairy industry.

Mr. Williams replied: 'Community legislation naturally embodies the international system (SI) of units of measurement. However, it was agreed at the time of accession that the United Kingdom could retain imperial units for its own use at least until the end of 1979, and beyond for special reasons.'

Consumer Advice Centres

Mr. John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked what steps are being taken to ensure that the local consumer advice centres now in operation, or soon to be opened, will be involved in carrying out the Government's prices policies.

'Local consumer advice centres are already involved in various aspects of the Government's prices policy,' said Mr. Williams. 'They refer appropriate problems to the Price Commission's Regional Offices, which are developing liaison with them. They work very closely with local authorities' weights and measures departments, which are responsible for enforcing orders under the Prices Act 1974. Many centres also collect and display information about local prices; this helps consumers and encourages local price competition.'

Hire purchase

Mrs. Joyce Butler (Wood Green) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, would amend the Hire Purchase and Credit Sale Agreements (Control) Order 1973 and the Control of Hiring Order 1973, in order to reduce the initial payments which retirement pensioners are required to make for television sets in hire purchase or credit sale agreements.

'The object of the credit restrictions is to reduce consumer demand and in the absence of any case that particular hardship is caused to one section of the community, it seems right that all consumers should be treated alike,' said Mr. Williams.

Private credit-ratings

Mr. Joseph Dean (Leeds West) asked if legislation would be introduced to make the sale of the credit-ratings of private individuals illegal.

Mr. Williams answered: 'Under the Consumer Credit Act 1974 no one will be permitted to operate a credit reference agency unless licensed by the Director General of Fair Trading. Licences will not be granted unless the Director General is satisfied that that person is fit to operate in this field. In those rare cases where they become available, the bulk records of such agencies will normally be of interest only to other agencies. However, in view of the concern expressed about the recent case I will draw the attention of the Director General to the point raised by my Hon. Friend.'

Offshore oil activity in Scotland

Mr. Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked how many firms are involved in Scotland in offshore oil activity; and how many firms are estimated to have the capability for such involvement.

Mr. John Smith, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'It is estimated that about 800 firms are presently involved in Scotland in the offshore oil industry. It is not possible, however, to estimate the number of firms which have an offshore capability because of the very wide range of goods and services that make up the offshore market.'

Frigg Field

Mr. Wilson also asked for the numbers, type and class of platforms estimated for use on the Frigg field; and for the number so far on order with details of estimated cost, company from where ordered and prospective dates of delivery.

Mr. Smith said: 'Frigg is a gas field lying across the dividing line between the UK and Norway. Four platforms are planned for the UK side of which two will be of steel and two of concrete; three of these are currently on order. An order for one concrete platform has been placed with McAlpine in Scotland whilst orders for one steel and the second concrete platform have been placed with UIE, France and Howard/Doris, Norway respectively. All three platforms are due for delivery this year. As regards the cost of the platforms, this is a commercial matter between the oil operator and his suppliers.'

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EEC proposals on redundant steelworkers

Mr. W. W. Hamilton (Central Fife) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would publish the correspondence relating to EEC proposals concerning the financing and studying of proposals relating to redundant steelworkers and miners.

'There has been no correspondence between my Department and the Commission concerning further UK studies to be funded under Article 46 of the Treaty of Paris,' answered Mr. Heffer. 'Proposals for studies into the possibility of re-employing redundant coal and steel workers have been the subject of face-to-face discussions between officials of my Department and the Commission.'

Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flint) asked how many applications from the Department of Industry to the European Coal and Steel Community for assistance in the retraining, rehousing and redeployment of redundant British steelworkers are still awaiting replies.

'Two,' said Mr. Heffer. 'One concerns 44 redundant workers from BSC's Whitehead works, and the other 180 workers at Brown Bayley Steels Ltd. who will become redundant over the next few weeks.'

Mr. Peter Blaker asked what action is being taken to encourage steel workers to take up the loans for house purchase at low rates of interest available from the European Communities.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'In consultation with my Department and the steel industry, my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for the Environment is urgently considering how these loans can be made available to assist in the housing of steelworkers in a way which would accord with the European Commission's conditions and with UK housing practices.'

Tuesday, 4 February

Electrical panel radiators

Mr. David Young (Bolton East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: 'If she is aware that some electric metal panel radiators installed in domestic electrical heating systems reach dangerously high temperatures and what action she proposes to take to deal with the matter?'

Mr. Williams replied: 'Some imported electric metal panel heaters designed for operation at 220 volts may reach excessive surface temperatures when connected to a supply of electricity at the standard UK voltage. These radiators, which are steel encased and up to 2 in. thick, can become hot enough to cause serious burns to exposed flesh. My Department has today issued a Press Notice warning of this hazard and advising members of the public who may have purchased electric panel radiators of this type to ascertain that their radiators do not reach excessive temperatures, or to take precautions to ensure that there is no risk of uncovered parts of the body coming into contact with the hot radiator, particularly where there are children about.

'The Electrical Appliances (Safety) Regulations which I propose to make shortly will, among other things, make it illegal to sell electric appliances which generate excessive heat.' (*See also page 352*)

British Leyland

Mr. Nigel Spearing (Newham South) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry in his talks with the British Leyland Motor Corporation would investigate: 'the apparent inability of that company to maintain supplies of spare parts for bus fleets of their manufacture and whether this contributed to their financial position and the inability of that company to maintain production of bus chassis for export to a previously agreed schedule?'

Mr. Meacher said: 'Shortages and variation in the pattern of demand from double deck to single deck vehicles and back again to double deck within the last few years have aggravated supply difficulties but all aspects of the operations of British Leyland's activities fall within the remit of the team led by Sir Don Ryder and my Hon. Friend's observations will be drawn to the attention of the team.'

Nationalised industries

Mr. Neville Trotter asked when officials of the Department of Industry last visited the works of the following nationalised companies: R. Harris and Son (Builders) Ltd., R. Harris and Son (Plant Hire) Ltd., Devon Concrete Works Ltd., K and L Marine Equipment Ltd., North East Coast Contractors Ltd., Sunderland Magnetic Ltd., The Sunderland Forge and Engineering Co. Ltd., and Walsingham Steel Co. Ltd.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'This Question refers to subsidiary companies of Appledore Shipbuilders Ltd., Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd., and North East Coast Shiprepairers Ltd. These companies were last visited by officials of my Department on 10 December 1974, 3 February 1975 and 9 October 1974, respectively. Visits to the subsidiary companies have been made by my officials as follows:

R. Harris and Son (Builders) Ltd. and R. Harris and Son (Plant Hire) Ltd. – 10 December 1974
Devon Concrete Works – 10 December 1974
Sunderland Forge and Engineering Co. Ltd. – 27/28 November 1974
K and L Marine Equipment Ltd. – 22/23 October 1974
Sunderland Magnetic Ltd. – 22/23 October 1974
Wolsingham Steel Co. Ltd. – 22/23 October 1974.'

Imports of textiles

Mr. Cyril Smith asked what quotas are being established for 1975 in relation to the import of textiles from quota-controlled countries.

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The EEC Commission is in the process of negotiating textile restraint arrangements on behalf of the enlarged Community with India and Pakistan and is preparing to negotiate with other major low-cost textile suppliers. The quota levels applicable to the UK will not be finally determined until each negotiation is concluded. Meanwhile the UK is continuing its existing restraint arrangements for the first three months of this year.'

Mr. Smith also asked about the level of quotas for the import of Greek and Turkish yarn for 1975.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'The EEC Commission is pursuing the matter on our behalf with the Greek and Turkish Governments. As announced on 20 December, the United Kingdom has introduced import licensing on cotton yarn from these countries, and consignments shipped after that date will be taken into account when the quota levels have been fixed.'

Mr. Smith then asked if steps would be taken to remove yarn from the EEC trade liberalisation list.

'No,' said Mr. Deakins. 'It would be contrary to our interests to encourage other Community countries to restrict their cotton yarn imports; one of our objectives is that developing countries' textiles should obtain increasing access to their markets. The House will be aware that we have taken steps to enable the UK to continue to restrict cotton yarn imports from previously-controlled sources, and to obtain new restraints on Greek and Turkish yarn.'

Coal production

Questions were asked by Mr. Skeet on projects planned to ensure production of 42 million tons of coal from existing and new mines under the Tripartite Plans for Coal by the mid-1980s, on the 20 major schemes expected to yield seven million tons of coal referred to in the memorandum Coal Industry Examination Final Report 1974, on the improvement schemes expected to yield 13 million tons of coal by 1985 referred to in the booklet Plan for Coal, and on the location of the new mines expected to be providing 20 million tons of coal by 1985.

Mr. Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, said: 'Further exploration, planning and appraisal is needed before all the projects which will form part of the National Coal Board's Plan for Coal can be listed. The Board has already approved major projects, which between them will provide some 8 million tons of output, at the following pits:'

Scotland	*Midlands*
Seafield	Markham
	Warsop
North East	Blidworth
Lynemouth/Ellington	Allerton
Easington	Thoresby
Horden/Blackhall	Annesley
Wearmouth	Newstead
	Hem Heath/Florence
Yorkshire	Littleton
Royston	
Kiveton Park	*Western*
Thurcroft	Silverdale
Dinnington	Haig
South Wales	*Kent*
Taff Merthyr/Merthyr Vale	Snowdon
Betws	
Blaenant	

'Of the projects listed, Royston and Betws are new mines. The NCB have applied for planning permission for a new mine at Selby which would produce 10 million tons per annum by the mid-1980s. The application is subject to a public inquiry which is due to start on 2 April.'

Nation Life Insurance Co.

Mrs. Sally Oppenheim (Gloucester) inquired about the order of priority for the payment of creditors

involved in the collapse of the Nation Life Insurance Co.

Mr. Shore answered: 'The liquidator will apply the statutory provisions. Therefore, creditors secured by mortgages on specific assets will be paid in so far as the assets charged are sufficient to discharge their claims. After paying or providing for the costs and expenses of the winding up, the assets will be applied firstly to pay the claims of the statutory preferential creditors to the extent provided for by statute and then to the claims of the unsecured creditors who, subject to any direction of the Court, rank equally between themselves.'

Wednesday, 5 February

Arab ownership of British newspapers

Mr. Greville Janner (Leicester West) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'Whether he will take steps to prevent any Arab state or group of Arab states or their nominees from obtaining a majority shareholding in any British national or local newspaper?'

'Such an inward investment proposal would require special permission and applications would be considered on their merits,' said Mr. Deakins.

Trade with EEC

Mr. Douglas Hurd (Mid-Oxon) asked what was the increase in British exports to other members of the EEC between 1972 and 1974.

'Eighty-seven per cent, to the Eight,' said Mr. Deakins.

Questions were asked by Mrs. Renée Short (Wolverhampton North East) on the direct inflow of funds arising from profits from British investments in property development, manufacturing industry and other purposes, respectively, in each of the Common Market countries, each year since 1960 to the latest convenient date, and the amount invested in each of these countries in property development, manufacturing industry and other purposes, respectively, derived from profits arising from British investment in each of those countries each year since 1960 to the latest convenient date.

Mr. Deakins gave the information available in the following table. It relates to investment from unremitted profits and to remitted profits for net outward direct investment, excluding oil. Branch profits, whether remitted or not, are included in remitted profits. The information has been compiled from the annual overseas transactions inquiry of the Department of Industry.

Chrysler acquisition of Rootes

Mr. Adam Butler (Bosworth) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to specify the assurances given to the British Government by the Chrysler Corporation on their acquisition of Rootes Ltd., which are of continuing effect; and to state which of them have been, and are at the present time being, observed.

Mr. Benn answered: 'The undertakings were as follows:

i Chrysler will not initiate any action to impair either the home or overseas operations or the management and direction of Rootes as a British company in its relations with the Government, labour, its British shareholders, and the public.

ii Chrysler undertakes to maintain a majority of British directors on the board of Rootes.

iii Chrysler confirms the plans of expansion covering development work at various factories and especially at Linwood in Scotland where the major development will take place and where it is planned to increase employment by several thousands; these plans are essential if Rootes is to remain competitive, achieve

Net outward direct investment [1] : unremitted profits and remitted profits [2]

£ million

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Belgium and Luxembourg													
Unremitted profits	−0.3	−0.3	0.6	0.1	−5.7	−2.0	0.8	1.6	12.4	13.1	5.3	11.7	15.7
Manufacturing industries									10.9	11.3	2.2	8.7	10.5
All other industries(3)									1.5	1.8	3.1	3.0	5.2
Remitted profits	1.0	1.7	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.5	3.4	4.9	9.9	4.6	10.7
Manufacturing industries									0.8	0.6	6.6	1.8	4.4
All other industries(3)									2.6	4.3	3.3	2.8	6.3
Denmark													
Unremitted profits	0.1	0.1	—	−0.3	0.2	−0.2	−0.3	0.4	−0.1	−0.3	0.6	0.2	2.0
Manufacturing industries									−0.1	−0.1	0.3	−0.2	0.4
All other industries (3)									—	−0.2	0.3	0.4	1.6
Remitted profits	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.7
Manufacturing industries									—	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4
All other industries (3)									0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3
France													
Unremitted profits	0.5	1.2	−0.2	2.7	2.8	1.3	3.2	2.6	6.0	7.6	10.8	12.6	20.6
Manufacturing industries									1.3	2.8	4.3	4.6	11.0
All other industries(3)									4.7	4.8	6.5	8.0	9.6
Remitted profits	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.5	1.6	2.1	2.1	3.4	4.3	4.6	8.1	8.6	13.6
Manufacturing industries									2.5	2.8	4.2	3.9	7.8
All other industries(3)									1.8	1.8	3.9	4.7	5.8
Irish Republic													
Unremitted profits	1.0	3.0	3.6	3.3	4.0	6.3	3.0	4.1	6.0	6.8	5.9	11.8	11.1
Manufacturing industries									4.5	5.6	6.0	9.3	10.0
All other industries(3)									1.5	1.2	−0.1	2.5	1.1
Remitted profits	6.2	6.3	6.2	7.3	4.7	4.0	6.1	6.3	6.9	8.4	8.1	7.9	10.5
Manufacturing industries									3.6	4.0	0.8	4.3	6.3
All other industries(3)									3.5	4.4	7.3	3.6	4.2
Italy													
Unremitted profits	−0.5	0.1	−1.9	−2.2	−3.1	−0.5	—	—	1.2	2.9	1.6	1.8	3.7
Manufacturing industries									0.6	1.7	2.5	1.8	3.8
All other industries(3)									0.6	1.2	−0.9	—	−0.1
Remitted profits	0.7	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.4	3.6	5.5	3.4	7.4
Manufacturing industries									2.2	3.0	2.8	2.7	3.7
All other industries(3)									0.2	0.6	2.7	0.7	3.7
Netherlands													
Unremitted profits	0.7	1.4	1.1	1.2	5.2	1.9	1.0	1.8	6.8	9.8	17.3	15.2	24.4
Manufacturing industries									2.0	8.2	13.7	7.3	19.9
All other industries(3)									4.8	1.6	3.6	7.9	4.5
Remitted profits	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.7	−4.3	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.5	3.5	6.2	9.5
Manufacturing industries									0.7	0.1	3.1	2.6	7.8
All other industries(3)									−0.2	0.4	0.4	3.6	1.7
Federal Republic of Germany													
Unremitted profits	3.8	7.2	7.7	5.9	0.3	4.7	3.1	1.1	17.2	21.3	12.0	16.6	10.8
Manufacturing industries									15.1	17.1	13.0	13.0	3.3
All other industries(3)									2.1	4.2	−1.0	3.6	7.5
Remitted profits	6.7	4.4	4.8	6.0	11.3	6.4	9.4	9.1	10.8	15.0	26.7	22.8	32.4
Manufacturing industries									7.2	9.6	13.9	16.0	20.8
All other industries									3.6	5.4	12.8	6.8	11.6

(1) Excluding oil and before 1963, insurance.
(2) Includes branch profits whether remitted to the UK or not.
(3) Property owning and managing was distinguished separately for the first time in 1972.
The figures (in £ millions) for investment from unremitted profits are: Belgium and Luxembourg, 0.3; France, −0.2; Irish Republic, 0.1; Netherlands, 0.1; and for remitted profits: Irish Republic, 0.2; Netherlands, 0.1.
The figures for investment from unremitted profits and for remitted profits for other countries are nil.

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its proper share of exports and return to reasonable profitability.

iv Chrysler plans to achieve a progressive increase in the export of Rootes products without restriction to all practicable markets and to continue to make available its full international organisation for this purpose. They note that, in the view of Her Majesty's Government, the test of the fulfilment of this undertaking would be that the export percentage of the products of the Rootes Group should be at least as high as the average for the British motor vehicle industry as a whole.

v Chrysler will nominate a Rootes director (British) to each of the boards of Simca SA and Chrysler International SA; and it is understood that a Simca director (French) will be nominated to the board of Rootes.

vi Chrysler confirms its intention to leave at least 15 per cent of the entire equity capital (Ordinary, 'A' Ordinary and Preferred Ordinary) in the hands of shareholders other than Chrysler, provided that in calculating this 15 per cent Chrysler may take into account any shares held by the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation (IRC) or put by IRC to Chrysler (in accordance with Undertaking vii below).

vii Provided that Chrysler acquires Preferred Ordinary Shares in excess of its rights entitlement of £6,263,686 nominal, it will make available to IRC at par up to £1,512,228 nominal of such excess, ie up to 15 per cent of the total Preferred Ordinary Shares, of £10,081,519 on condition that IRC participate to the same percentage in Chrysler's undertaking to subscribe up to £10,000,000 Unsecured Loan Stock. IRC will have the right on 1 January 1972 to put these securities to Chrysler at par plus any accrued but unpaid dividend or interest.

viii IRC will have the right to nominate one director on Rootes board as long as it owns all the securities mentioned in Undertaking vii above.

'Undertakings i to v continue to have effect. The other three undertakings originally related to the participation of the IRC in Chrysler UK. The IRC's assets, rights and liabilities were transferred to Government by virtue of the Industry Act 1971. Government exercised the right expressed in undertaking vii realising the former IRC investment in January 1972. Undertakings vii and viii then ceased to have effect. Subsequently in December 1972 Chrysler was released from undertaking vi.

'I have written to the President of the Chrysler Corporation for an assessment of the present position.'

British car industry

Mr. Eddie Loyden (Liverpool, Garston) asked the Secretary of State for Industry to take account of the concern among British car workers about the lack of accountability of multi-national companies to the British car industry, and if he would take steps to make multi-national companies in the motor industry accountable for manpower and planning of UK plant by obliging them to give advance warning to the UK Government of any proposed cutback investment policy within the UK and the division of labour between design and engineering and assembly.

'The system of planning agreements and the information provisions in the Industry Bill are designed to secure this for large companies,' said Mr. Benn.

Waste paper

A statement was asked for by Mr. A. J. Beith (Berwick-on-Tweed) about discussions with the paper industries and with the local authorities and charitable organisations involved in wastepaper collection about the implications for recycling of the current low prices for wastepaper.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The Advisory Group on Waste Paper Recycling upon which the paper industries and local authorities are represented has had three meetings and expects to produce an interim report in three or four months time. In the meantime I have made it clear that I am prepared to consider urgently any interim scheme of assistance for the industry to promote increased stockpiling which falls within the provisions of current legislation under Section 8 of the Industry Act 1972. So far I have received no such application from the industry.'

Government purchases of textiles

Mr. Frank R. White (Bury and Radcliffe) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would instruct his department to purchase all future textile requirements from British manufacturers.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The Department's requirements will continue to be met principally through intermediate suppliers such as the Department of Environment's Property Services Agency and the Post Office but I am assured that the major proportion is of British origin.'

Post Office investment

Mr. John Golding (Newcastle under Lyme) asked why the proposed increase in Post Office investment between 1976-77 and between 1977-78 and between 1977-78 and 1978-79, respectively, in 'Public Expenditure to 1978-79' is in each case limited to £5 million.

'This rate of growth is consistent with the forecast of demand for Post Office services,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Concorde

Mr. Norman Tebbit asked for an estimate of the cost of producing Concorde aircraft, (a) being currently built, and (b) which might be built, in response to further orders requiring the authorisation of further production.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The estimated cost, net of sales receipts, to the UK Government of the production of 16 Concorde aircraft, and support of the authorised programme up to 1978-79, is given on pages 34-35 of the recent White Paper on Public Expenditure (Cmnd. 5879) and amounts in total to £142.4 million at 1974 survey prices. Estimates of the comparable cost to the French Government are not available at present. The cost of any further production would depend on the number of additional aircraft and the rate at which they were produced.'

Mr. Tebbit also asked for a statement on the progress of Concorde towards passenger-carrying service.

Mr. Meacher replied that the manufacturers are pressing ahead with the authorised programme for the development of the entry into service version and the production of 16 aircraft with the objective of enabling commercial services to start at the earliest practicable date.

'How many man hours are currently being worked by the staff of the Department of Industry on matters concerned with the Concorde programme?' asked Mr. Tebbit.

'Some 2,040 man hours per week are currently being worked by staff of my Department engaged full-time on matters directly concerned with the Concorde programme,' said Mr. Meacher. 'In addition, a substantial amount of work is done by staff of the Ministry of Defence Procurement Executive on the administration of the Concorde contracts and on the monitoring of the Olympus 593 engine programme.'

Mr. Tebbit then wanted to know the total cost of the Concorde programme up to the present date in current terms and in terms of the value of the £ sterling at the inception of the programme; what part of that total cost is being met by the UK taxpayer, and if the Secretary of State for Industry intends to authorise further production of Concorde aircraft.

Mr. Meacher said: 'Expenditure in the UK and France on the Concorde development programme to the end of 1974 is estimated at £866 million at current prices, equivalent to £504 million at 1962 prices. This expenditure was incurred almost exactly equally in the two countries.

'British expenditure to the same date on production, capital assistance, intramural and ancillary work on Concorde is estimated at £176 million at current prices, equivalent to £86 million at 1962 prices. No precise estimate of equivalent French costs is available, but their magnitude is understood to be similar.

'The eventual net cost to the UK taxpayer will depend on the number of aircraft sold.'

Mr. Meacher also said that any decision on the authorisation of further Concorde production would need to be taken jointly by the British and French Governments in the light of circumstances prevailing at the time and especially the market prospects.

Trade with OPEC countries

Mr. James Sillars (South Ayrshire) asked for information on the increase in the volume and value of UK exports to individual OPEC countries over the past four years; and for a comparison of the UK performance with that of the USA, Japan, West Germany, Sweden, France, Denmark, and Italy.

Mr. Deakins told him that no information is available on the increase in the volume of exports; the following table shows the increases in the dollar value of exports:

Per cent

	Algeria	Libya	Nigeria	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia	Iran	Iraq	Qatar	United Arab Emirates	Indonesia	Ecuador	Venezuela
United Kingdom												
Annual average increase 1970/73	32.1	36.9	15.5	0.6	19.2	37.7	5.2	38.5	27.2	41.7	20.0	5.9
Annual average increase 1970/74	33.5	25.8	17.4	12.6	34.9	42.3	25.2	30.4	40.1	40.2	17.3	9.8
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	43.9	−11.4	5.9	39.4	88.4	40.8	82.0	−12.3	64.1	36.6	−12.5	21.9
United States												
Annual average increase 1970/73	37.5	−0.2	7.7	24.1	46.4	33.2	36.0	..	35.0	18.6	11.0	10.8
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	99.7	6.0	58.4	54.5	90.5	88.7	475.1	94.3	122.3	23.5	89.5	62.0
Japan												
Annual average increase 1970/73	35.6	52.1	30.9	20.9	63.0	39.5	45.4	..	63.7	41.9	18.3	16.4
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	199.0	136.7	66.5	59.1	47.7	100.3	721.7	126.4	96.7	61.4	89.0	87.1
German FR												
Annual average increase 1970/73	46.7	66.1	26.9	18.7	24.7	30.8	30.8	43.8	..	28.8	21.8	25.6
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	39.2	94.6	48.2	116.4	121.2	52.3	436.6	87.7	190.2	75.8	80.8	4.0
Sweden												
Annual average increase 1970/73	49.7	65.3	21.3	27.1	40.1	28.2	4.4	44.2	83.1	44.2	27.6	27.5
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	41.2	171.7	51.7	111.3	137.5	60.4	122.9	25.0	96.3	39.2	41.0	−26.3
France												
Annual average increase 1970/73	10.2	67.3	54.2	−0.1	18.5	44.9	33.4	51.8	..	48.5	32.2	27.5
Increase Jan.-Aug. 1973/Jan.-Aug. 1974	44.6	99.8	22.6	19.8	141.2	13.3	147.7	−11.0	−26.7	110.9	155.3	39.4
Denmark												
Annual average increase 1970/73	50.7	27.9	23.2	9.6	24.6	23.3	−5.5	125.7	123.7	23.7	−12.6	23.2
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	−18.8	66.7	30.7	132.8	84.0	116.0	164.6	17.6	103.0	97.1	185.7	−26.5
Italy												
Annual average increase 1970/73	23.8	50.2	17.9	14.8	31.0	28.9	27.5	44.2	..	7.7	23.9	15.8
Increase Jan.-Sept. 1973/Jan.-Sept. 1974	67.5	94.6	93.4	68.3	95.9	60.3	182.9	143.3	148.8	157.8	63.2	81.3

.. Not available for 1970 and 1971.
Source: IMF Direction of Trade.

SGHWR power stations

Mr. John Evans (Newton) asked the Secretary of State for Energy, when he proposes to give consent for the construction of SGHWR power stations.

The answer, by Mr. Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, is published on page 355.

Trade with Romania

Lord Auckland asked for information on the current balance of trade between the United Kingdom and Romania and the Government's plans to increase exports during the current year, particularly in the field of chemicals and mechanical goods.

Lord Winterbottom answered: 'The total visible trade between the United Kingdom and Romania in 1974 was £67·8 million, and the crude balance was £767,000 in Romania's favour. During the course of the recent United Kingdom/Romania Joint Governmental Commission, the Romanian delegation made known some of their likely import requirements for 1975 and the period 1976 to 1980, including some in the areas mentioned in the noble Lord's Question, which might be met by exports from the United Kingdom. The Department of Trade will vigorously pursue the opportunities presented.'

Thursday, 6 February

Monopolies report on contraceptive sheaths

Mr. Leo Abse (Pontypool) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had received the report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the supply within the United Kingdom of contraceptive sheaths.

Mr. Williams replied. His answer is published on page 353.

Voyage recorders

Mr. John Spence (Thirsk and Malton) referred to the loss of the trawlers Morena *and* Gaul, *and suggested the development by British industry of a 'black box' type of voyage recorder for use in trawlers.*

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'On the basis of evidence currently available I am not satisfied that the fitting of costly data recording equipment of the kind used in aircraft would significantly contribute to the safety of life at sea However, the research and development project on alerting and locating devices which I announced in the House on 13 January 1975 includes consideration of this aspect.'

Textile imports

Mr. A. G. F. Hall-Davis (Morecambe and Lonsdale) asked for information on the increase in volume and the increase in value of imports of textile piece goods and made up garments, respectively, for the latest available three month period compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

'Volume information is not available,' said Mr. Deakins. 'Comparing the fourth quarters of 1973 and 1974 the value of textile piece goods imported increased by 12 per cent, whilst that of made up garments fell by 6 per cent.'

Petroleum imports

Mr. Roper asked for figures showing the value of (a) crude oil and (b) petroleum products imported from each of the eight other members of the European Community in each of the years 1972, 1973 and 1974, giving the figures separately for each country.

Mr. Deakins gave the following information:

£ million cif

Country of consignment	Petroleum, crude and partly refined for further refining (SITC(R) 331)			Petroleum products including petroleum gases (SITC(R) 332 and 341)		
	1972	1973	1974	1972	1973	1974
Federal Republic of Germany	5.2	1.8	7.5	5.0	6.9	13.8
Netherlands	11.8	13.4	96.4	82.7	97.1	214.1
Belgium/Luxembourg	0.9	0.4	7.5	23.3	44.4	50.2
France	3.5	6.2	13.8	14.7	21.3	44.9
Italy	3.2	2.8	4.7	31.1	48.5	81.4
Denmark	0.3	0.2	—	1.8	2.2	5.8
Irish Republic	16.2	36.7	144.1	4.7	4.3	12.9

UK trade

Questions were asked by Mr. John Roper (Farnworth) on the increase in value of UK exports to the rest of the EEC, to North America and to EFTA in 1974; the increase in the value of UK imports from and of exports to North America in 1974 and the increase in the value of UK imports from and of exports to EFTA in 1974 all as a percentage of their values in 1973.

Mr. Deakins gave the following percentages:

	Exports	Imports
EEC	37	—
North America	17	37
EFTA	29	27

Mr. Roper also asked what percentage of total UK imports and total UK exports, UK imports from and exports to the EEC formed in 1974.

'Thirty-three per cent in each case,' said Mr. Deakins.

Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd.

Mr. Tebbit asked how many man hours are required by the staff of the Department of Industry to monitor the progress of Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd. towards the objectives set by HMG.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'The information is not available in the form requested. However, within the Department of Industry there are nine persons employed full time on all aspects of Government relations with Rolls-Royce

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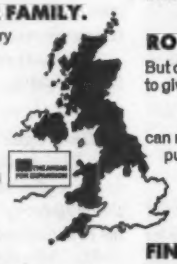

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North West. Manchester, tel: 061-236 2171

Yorkshire & Humberside. Tel: Leeds 443171 (STD code 0532)

East Midlands. Tel: Nottingham 46121 (STD code 0602)

West Midlands. Birmingham, tel: 021-632 4111

South West. Tel: Plymouth 21891 (STD code 0752) or Bristol 291071 (STD code 0272)

London & South East. London, tel: 01-212 6343

Eastern Region. London, tel: 01-212 0289

Northern Ireland. Tel: Belfast 34488 (STD code 0232) or London 01-493 0601

To: The Industrial Expansion Team, Department of Industry, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU

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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

1966/67	1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74
6.4	7.0	8.4	9.6	10.6	11.6	12.6	13.6

(1971) Ltd.; in addition, advice on specialised matters is provided from within the Department and by the Ministry of Defence (Procurement Executive).'

Short Brothers and Harland Ltd.

Mr. Tebbit asked what were the financial, social and technical objectives set by HMG for Short Bros. and Harland Ltd.

'Short Brothers and Harland Ltd. functions as a commercial organisation with normal commercial objectives,' said Mr. Meacher. 'Its Government-appointed directors must have regard to general Government policy. The company trades in both civil and military aerospace products and is judged by the same criteria as other suppliers when undertaking Government contracts.'

Mr. Tebbit then asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would arrange for the House of Commons to have available to it the information required to monitor the progress of Short Bros. and Harland towards these objectives.

Mr. Meacher said: 'The Government is the major shareholder in Short Bros. and Harland and has made loans to the company in the past. I therefore regularly receive data on its general financial position and progress reports on Government supported projects. This information is commercially confidential and cannot be published.'

Mr. Tebbit asked how many man hours are required by the staff of the Department of Industry to monitor the progress of Short Bros. and Harland Ltd. towards the objectives set by HMG.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The information is not available in the form requested. Within the Department of Industry there are seven officials who over a period spend some of their time on matters relating to Short Bros. and Harland Ltd. as part of their responsibilities for the aircraft industry as a whole. This is equivalent to about one person full-time. In addition professional advice on specialised questions is provided from within the Department and by MOD (PE).'

Friday, 7 February

Overseas borrowings of nationalised industries

Mr. Tebbit asked for a list of the overseas borrowings of the nationalised industries responsible to the Secretary of State for Trade in each of the last 10 years, together with the value of their exports for the same years, and the value of their imports of capital goods and services.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The British Airports Authority was established in April 1966. It has undertaken no foreign borrowing. There were no imports of capital goods and services until 1972/73. It is estimated that in each of that and the following year such imports amounted to about £1 million. Foreign currency earnings were as follows (£ million):

'The British Airways Board was established in April 1972. For earlier years the information below relates to the former British Overseas Airways Corporation and British European Airways combined. Figures for overseas borrowing are only readily available from 1967/68 and in terms of the amount outstanding (ie after repayments) at the end of each financial year. Export figures are available only from 1971 and in the form indicated.'

'The information is:

£ million

	1964/1965	1965/1966	1966/1967	1967/1968	1968/1969	1969/1970	1970/1971	1971/1972	1972/1973	1973/1974
Overseas loans outstanding at 31 March each year (sterling equivalents)	N/A	N/A	N/A	16.2	28.6	48.3	96.2	123.0	107.0	112.6
Imports of capital equipment (aircraft and initial spares)	5.0	5.0	4.0	10.8	12.8	12.7	68.6	60.5	11.5	30.9

Exports	1971	1972	1973	1974
Earnings overseas	208.0	267.0	317.0	382.0
less operating expenses overseas	115.0	114.0	176.0	230.0
Net balance of payments contribution	93.0	123.0	141.0	152.0

Mr. Tebbit asked for similar information from the Secretary of State for Industry.

Mr. Meacher gave information as follows:

BRITISH STEEL CORPORATION (established 1967)

£ million

	Mar. 1967/Sept. 1968	Oct. 1968/Sept. 1969	Sept. 1969/Mar. 1970	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73	1973/74	1974/75 (to date)
Overseas borrowing	—	—	—	—	—	—	47	215
Export sales(a)	193.8	190.1	106.2	233.5	264.9	214.7	225.6	N/A

'I regret that figures for imports are not readily available.'

POST OFFICE

£ million

	1964/1965	1965/1966	1966/1967	1967/1968	1968/1969	1969/1970	1970/1971	1971/1972	1972/1973	1973/1974	1974/1975 (to date)
Overseas borrowing	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.5	2.1	—	212.6	217.4
Imports(b)	0.8	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.7	2.5	4.7	3.7	14.5	6.6	N/A
Exports	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8	N/A

N/A = Not available.
(a) Excludes sales to overseas subsidiaries.
(b) Figures do not include adjustments between administrations in connection with normal international posts and telecommunications services.

Name and address with cable

British firms cabling an overseas organisation for the first time should ensure that they include their name and full postal address. There is no comprehensive directory of cable addresses, and commercial departments in British embassies are often unable to help local firms who ask them to trace British firms from their cable address.

Small Firms Information Centres

Centre	Telephone	Freefone area	Freefone	Telex
Birmingham	021-643 3344	West Midlands	4054	337919
Bristol	294546	South West	9910	449650
Cardiff	396116	Wales	1208	497515
Glasgow	041-248 6014	Scotland	846	779334
Leeds	445151	Yorks/Humberside	5361	557687
London	01-828 2384	London & South East	2079	917920
Luton	29215	Eastern	372	826115
Manchester	061-832 5282	North Western	6006	667952
Newcastle	25353	Northern	529	537429
Nottingham	49791	East Midlands	4062	377313

BOTB British Overseas Trade Board

The Republic of Ireland: not an extension of the home market

by R. K. McKenzie, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Dublin

Opportunities for British exports and services of all kinds to the Republic of Ireland are excellent, but it would be a mistake to assume that the circumstances that have favoured our trade in the past will ensure its success in the future. The other Members of the Community and the EFTA countries by virtue of their Free Trade Agreements with the Community will reach free trade with the Irish Republic in the bulk of manufactured goods by July 1977. With the strengthening of competition in all fields greater determination will be needed to ensure that one has the right product for the market and the right means of selling it.

Some UK companies cover the Irish Republic market with their home sales department. While this is generally advantageous, ensuring frequent visiting on a par with important regional centres in the United Kingdom, there may be some disadvantages in removing marketing from corporate export strategy and it may be necessary to guard against some unfamiliarity with export procedures and techniques.

The current scene

The importance of the Republic of Ireland as a major British export market should not be judged by its small population of three million. Last year, United Kingdom exports to this country totalled £820 million; they had increased more than five fold between 1960 and 1973. In 1973 the Republic was our fourth largest customer and per capita expenditure on British goods was over £200.

These exports covered a very wide range. They included transport equipment (especially commercial and passenger vehicles), industrial, constructional and agricultural machinery, mechanical handling equipment, livestock (from Northern Ireland), chemicals, pharmaceuticals and medicines, scientific instruments, textiles, yarns, industrial materials in general and many kinds of consumer goods, including durables, among which carpets and domestic equipment are important.

In 1973 the UK retained its 1972 share of about 51 per cent of total Irish Republic imports, while the Continental EEC countries increased their combined share by 3.5 percentage points to about 21 per cent. Our two closest competitors, the Federal Republic of Germany and the USA, each supplied less than one-tenth of total imports in the same year. However, provisional trade returns published for 1974 suggest that the UK share of the market may decline to about 46.6 per cent, while that of the other EEC countries may rise marginally to about 22 per cent. The picture is distorted by the quadrupling of prices of oil (much of which is from UK refineries) but it still seems that our competitors in other countries, including the EEC, are making gains at the expense of UK exporters. These gains may be a temporary diversion of orders to other suppliers because of Britain's exceptional supply difficulties. But in the medium term a number of circumstances combine to threaten the present position of UK exporters in the Republic.

The changing prospects for UK exports

For many years UK exporters have enjoyed important advantages over their foreign competitors in this market. Briefly stated they are the traditional position of Britain as the principal supplier of imports and the chief customer for Irish Republic exports; the absence of exchange control between the two countries and the continued parity link between the Irish pound and sterling; the long standing familiarity with British business methods and with British goods; the large direct industrial investment in the Republic over many years by UK companies; proximity and the common language which together have facilitated the rapid movement of goods and people, tourists as well as businessmen, between both countries and have ensured a wide circulation in the Republic for British newspapers and periodicals and an audience for British films, television and radio programmes.

The Anglo-Irish Free Trade Area Agreement (AIFTAA), under which tariffs on UK-manufactured goods have been reduced by 10 per cent a year since 1966 – and will have been removed entirely on the majority by July 1975 – has also favoured UK exports. Directly, the Agreement has benefited UK exports mainly of consumer goods, including durables. UK exports to the Republic are continuing to grow in absolute terms but they are facing increasing competition.

The tariff advantages we enjoy relative to our EEC partners and EFTA countries under the AIFTAA are, of course, being progressively eliminated during the transitional period towards tariff harmonisation with the Community.

The Republic's economy

After a year of exceptional growth in 1973 the Irish Republic economy moved slowly throughout 1974, with very little, if any, growth, despite a reasonably expansionary budget introduced in April. The outlook for 1975 is scarcely more buoyant, exacerbated by increases in the cost of oil, commodities and imports generally. Credit restrictions, high interest rates, one of the worst inflation levels in Europe, rapidly rising unit labour costs and a decline in the volume of consumer expenditure, have accentuated liquidity problems and inadequate profitability of many companies. An increasing number of factories have curtailed production, making workers redundant, and unemployment is at the highest level for several years. The budget introduced in January 1975 seeks to maintain employment and preserve living standards.

It also seeks to avoid depressing internal demand and to correct the balance of payments difficulties. There is to be no direct attack on inflation but there was a strong appeal for wage restraint.

Industry and agriculture

The Republic has seen a rapid development since 1960 of manufacturing industry, which now contributes about a quarter to the Republic's Gross National Product. Agriculture is still, however, the single most important industry in the country, employing about a quarter of the total labour force and accounting for about one-sixth of GNP. In 1972 and 1973, two exceptionally prosperous years, farm output rose by about 54 per cent and income by about 60 per cent. Last year was less prosperous for agriculture as a result mainly of the slump in beef prices and escalating costs. But there is interest in implementing measures for the structural reform of agriculture and finance is readily available for agricultural investment. Medium term prospects are now promising and further expansion is likely in the next two or three years, especially in beef and dairying, though little growth is expected in the area under tillage except perhaps in barley and sugar-beet.

As a consequence of the importance of agriculture in the national economy, food processing, based largely on domestic agriculture, is the largest of the country's manufacturing industries. The most important products are milk, meat and vegetable processing. Considerable expansion of capacity is being undertaken, especially by the creameries, producing milk powder, chocolate crumb, cassein, whey, butter and cheese, largely for export, and meat factories are undergoing a process of rationalisation. Capital investment by food processing factories in the Republic, whose applications for grants have been approved by the State-sponsored Industrial Development Authority (IDA), is likely to exceed £30 million in the year ending March 1975.

Natural resources

Extraction from the massive lead/zinc deposits discovered in Co. Meath in 1970 is expected to start during the next year or two and Marathon Oil Co. is likely within the next 12 months to be producing natural gas from its finds off the Cork coast. Esso is reported to have discovered traces of oil. There is considerable and increasing interest in gas and oil exploration; and details of the Irish Republic Government's policy on this are shortly to be published. Several companies are expected to receive exclusive licences to enable them to begin drilling operations during 1975. Meanwhile a number of companies have proposals to set up bases to service oil rigs.

Industrial development

The exceptionally generous incentives which the Industrial Development Authority is able to offer, fiscal benefits and the appeal of a manufacturing base in the EEC, with relatively low labour costs, have been particularly successful in the past two or three years in attracting direct industrial investment from abroad. A number of large plants for chemicals, pharmaceuticals, synthetic fibres and fabrics, engineering, bauxite refining, fertilisers and oil refining are being constructed or are under consideration: some projects approved by the IDA for grant assistance in 1973/74 have, however, been deferred because of the uncertainties of the world economic situation. Foreign industrial investment has had the effect of increasing imports of production machinery and materials from sources other than the UK but, at the same time, has created a larger industrial base and a market with greater purchasing power offering enhanced opportunities for British exporters.

Apprehension about the probable effects of the progressive elimination of duties on imports from other EEC countries and EFTA has encouraged many established industries to undertake rationalisation and modernisation measures and to take advantage of any State aids, or other assistance, available. In 1973/74, grants for industry for £11 million were approved under the IDA's re-equipment grants scheme.

Again, lack of progress so far on the establishment of a Community regional development policy has been a bitter disappointment; but once a regional fund has been established the Republic is confidently expected to be a major beneficiary. The IDA has published its proposals for industrial development in the five-year period 1973-77 in each of nine areas within which 52 per cent of all new jobs would be created. These proposals are now being reviewed and revised plans are to be published during this year. Substantial investment is planned in infrastructural development, including railways, telecommunications, roads, ports, education and electricity generation; and a nuclear power station is planned for 1982.

Funds from FEOGA, the European Social Fund and the European Investment Bank have been made available for a variety of developments in the Irish Republic since the beginning of 1973.

Prospect for trade

It seems likely that the growth of imports will be slower during the coming year and that both industry and the general public will be more selective in their purchasing

The full AEC range of British Leyland heavy duty trucks is assembled in the Republic of Ireland at the extensive CRV Engineering works in Dundalk. The photograph shows a selection of chassis in the inspection department after leaving the assembly line.

The hosiery mill of Pretty Polly Ltd. at Killarney is claimed to be the most modern in Europe specialising in the mass production of a limited number of styles.

practices than hitherto, deferring inessential expenditure and perhaps being more enterprising in seeking the best value for money. For these reasons – and also because in a recessionary situation other countries, including the EEC and EFTA, will be promoting exports more vigorously in all accessible markets – the need for UK exporters to re-examine their sales policy and organisation in this important traditional market is now urgent.

UK manufacturers in general seem to have had more difficulty than their Continental competitors over the past year or so in keeping delivery promises (although the effects of the three-day working week do not appear to have been especially significant) and, for some kinds of industrial plant, more reluctance to quote fixed prices. Some Irish manufacturers, apprehensive about the continued availability of essential materials or equipment from their traditional UK suppliers, have been encouraged to seek other, and possibly more reliable, sources of supply.

Lengthy deliveries are sometimes inevitable in present circumstances, and failure to adhere to a promised delivery date can be unavoidable: the unforgivable offence, from any point of view is not to tell the customer in good time when a delivery date is likely to slip. Despite the common language, despite proximity, despite excellent telephone, telex and postal facilities between the two countries, a failure to communicate promptly, to answer a simple inquiry by return, or to advise of a probable extension of delivery dates, is the most frequently-voiced complaint in the Republic against British companies. Another, but less frequent complaint, is of inadequate after-sales service and lack of availability of spares.

However carefully a company may have selected an agent or distributor initially, it is just as important in the Republic as elsewhere for the sales or export director to keep in regular personal contact to ensure that local advice is heeded and that the agent or distributor receives all necessary support, as well as to ascertain that he is assiduous in seeking business. Dublin is within an hour's flight of London, Glasgow, Cardiff, Birmingham and Manchester, while Cork is almost equally accessible; maintaining regular contact with agents and principal customers need not be excessively time-consuming. British visitors, whether businessmen or tourists, will invariably be treated with the utmost courtesy and kindness wherever they travel in the Republic of Ireland.

The British Embassy

The British Embassy is centrally situated in Dublin and in the Commercial Section we are always glad to meet visiting businessmen whom we are often able to help with advice on the market or individual agents etc., particularly if we have been advised of their visits in advance through General Export Services Branch of the Department of Trade (Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU). Information on market developments in this country is circularised to individual subscribers to the Export Intelligence Service, details of which are available from the same address. Copies of published reports on planned infrastructural developments and the economic situation in the Republic are held by the Department of Trade Library (1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET) and are available for consultation by the public.

Big water treatment plant contract for County Mayo

Permutit-Boby Ltd., a member of the Portals Water Treatment Group, has been awarded a contract valued at over £250,000 to design, supply, erect and commission a comprehensive water treatment plant for Asahi Chemicals' new acrylic fibre factory at Ballina, County Mayo, Eire.

The contract, awarded to Permutit-Boby by Mitsui and Co. Ltd., London, is for the clarification of over 20,000 m^3 (4,400,000 gallons) of lake water per day for industrial use, a proportion of which will be further treated to provide softened water, demineralised water and drinking water.

Permutit-Boby reports that it has met these requirements with the proposed installation of precipitation, filtration, softening, de-ionising and chlorination plant. The complete system will be automatically controlled. In addition, an effluent neutralisation plant will be installed to ensure that regeneration waste can be safely discharged to the factory waste system.

A typical Permutit-Boby concrete precipitator similar to the one to be supplied to Asahi Chemicals' new acrylic fibre factory at Ballina, County Mayo, Eire.

BOTB News

New Trade Advisory Group for Tropical Africa

The Advisory Group for Tropical Africa has been re-established and held its first meeting on 5 February. The new group will assist the British Overseas Trade Board in the promotion of British exports to the countries of Tropical Africa; in particular it will advise the Board and British exporters on opportunities for exports to and investment in Tropical Africa and will assist in the planning and co-ordination of the BOTB's export promotion programme in that area.

At the request of Lord Thorneycroft, Chairman of the BOTB, Mr. G. A. Hannah CBE, JP, has agreed to serve as chairman of the new Group. Mr. Hannah is a director of Pegson Ltd. of Loughborough and was for some time deputy chairman of the Africa Committee of the former British National Export Council.

The other members of the group are:

Dr. W. Black-Campbell, Foster-Wheeler Ltd.; Mr. W. Duncan, Barclays Bank International Ltd.; Mr. J. P. Gregory, Cadbury-Schweppes Ltd.; Mr. T. D. Grocock, Vickers Ltd.; Mr. W. Holmes, Rubery Owen Holdings Ltd.; Mr. A. H. Hounsell, CompAir International Ltd.; Mr. T. P. Randle, Clothing Export Council; Dr. G. H. Schnellmann, Mackay and Schnellmann Ltd.; Mr. J. Scotting, GEC Machines Ltd.; Mr. A. Spencer, Ralph Martindale & Co. Ltd.; Mr. D. Sykes, Elder-Dempster Lines Ltd.; Mr. L. B. Whittaker, Bentley Engineering Group Ltd.; Mr. Gordon Wilson, CBE, UAC International Ltd.; Mr. G. Wood, Ove-Arup & Partners.

The Department of Trade and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will be represented on the Committee and there will also be close links with the Export Credits Guarantee Department and the Ministry of Overseas Development.

The secretary of the group is Mr. T. L. Edgar, MBE, of the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, who have undertaken to service the group. The address is: Tropical Africa Advisory Group, c/o Birmingham Chamber Of Industry and Commerce, PO Box 360, 75 Harborne Road, Birmingham B15 3DH.

The geographical coverage of the group extends broadly from south of the Sahara to north of South Africa and Rhodesia. A list of the countries within the area:

Afars and Issas, Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde Island, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoro Island, People's Republic of the Congo, Dahomey, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Malagasy Republic, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Reunion, Rwanda, St. Helena, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somali Republic, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire, Zambia.

Growing Japanese market for British contract furnishing products

There is a growing Japanese market for British exports of contract furnishing – carpets, soft furnishings, wall coverings, furniture, light fixtures and ceramic tiles – states the *Japanese Market for Contract Furnishing* a report published on 3 February by the British Overseas Trade Board. The report adds that high grade products which have unique features in terms of design and colour offer the best prospects.

British exporters are advised to aim their promotional activities for architects, interior designers and decorators, and the architectural departments of general contractors. The report stresses that British exporters need to study the numerous regulations – relating to quality, flammability and electrical safety – before attempting to market their products in Japan.

Detailed information is provided on the

São Paulo fair debriefing at BOTB headquarters

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade (right), talking to a pensive Mr. A. S. Godbehere and his colleague Mr. G. Waite (left) from the Steetley Company Ltd. Smiling in the background is Frederick Schofield of Morgan Crucible Company. The occasion was a gathering at Department of Trade and BOTB headquarters for about 70 representatives of exhibitors at last year's British Industrial Fair at Sao Paulo. Experiences resulting in participation in the fair were discussed. The meeting was chaired by the Hon. David Montgomery, who was president of the fair. Lord Thorneycroft and Jim Rooke, respectively chairman and chief executive of the BOTB, were among contributors to the discussion.

market factors for the various product groups. These include.

Furniture. Demand is expected to grow most for wooden furniture items having legs, such as tables and chairs, and also 'unit furniture' of both wood and plastic construction for institutional and home uses.

Carpets. The report states that imported products dominate the Japanese market for high grade carpets both for contract furnishing and general households.

Ceramics. Imported tiles, especially the European decorative tiles, are extremely popular in Japan. Consequently it is believed that high grade imported tiles will rapidly gain ground in the interior decorating market for contract furnishing.

Light fixtures. The report considers that the most promising areas for light fixtures are products which are made of high grade materials such as iron, copper or glass; products with carved, engraved or glass worked shades; and products designed by well-known designers.

Other information contained in the 170 page report includes the major potential importers in Japan, the main British and foreign countries represented there, details of trade regulations and a list of major trade fairs.

From 14-18 October this year 17 British manufacturers of contract furnishing products are exhibiting, with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board, at the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo. Among the products on display will be furniture, lighting fitments, carpets, and soft furnishings and fabrics. One company is showing a British pub interior fitted out with contract furnishing items.

The Japanese Market for Contract Furnishing was prepared for the British Overseas Trade Board by Dodwell Marketing Consultants in Tokyo. It is available to British manufacturers, price £20 post free, from the Central Library, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

British exports to Japan increase by 78 per cent

'Prospects for British business in Japan for the next five years and beyond are extremely promising' said Peter Wakefield, special adviser on the Japanese market to the British Overseas Trade Board, speaking to Scottish exporters in Glasgow recently. Mr. Wakefield continued 'The British Overseas Trade Board launched its major export drive on the Japanese market in 1972 and since then British exports have risen by 78 per cent, bringing the 1974 annual total to £321 million.'

Mr. Wakefield said it was vital that British firms plan now to meet the demand which will arise in Japan when the expected five per cent growth rate is resumed during the next 18 months. He pointed out that the BOTB has available a full range of export services to help firms entering the Japanese market for the first time, or seeking to increase their present market share.

The British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo, he said, has been a most successful feature of the Board's export drive in Japan. Since the Centre opened in 1973, 240 British companies have exhibited there, and in addition to taking nearly £3 million in orders during the exhibitions further sales of over £11,500,000 are expected as a direct result of their participation.

In addition, 76 British firms had staged exhibitions at the Centre, independently of official sponsorship. By using a process of audience selection at the Centre the 15,000 Japanese visitors had included valuable business contacts for the exhibitors.

The programme of exhibitions at the Centre is now being planned up to the end of 1976. This is being aimed at specific product areas, said Mr Wakefield, including business equipment, domestic appliances, metal finishing equipment, gardening and do-it-yourself tools, electro-optics and laser apparatus.

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Electronic data processing and communications in international trade

A preliminary inquiry is being carried out by Leonard Griffiths and Associates Ltd. on behalf of the Simplification of International Trade Procedures (SITRO) Board into the application of electronic data processing (EDP) and data communications to procedures and information flows associated with the surface movement of goods into and out of British seaports.

The purpose of this inquiry, which will take between four to five months, is to:

1 Assemble fundamental information on the various EDP systems which are operating or being contemplated by UK participants in international trade
2 Assess the extent to which UK participation feel a need for intercommunication with each other's systems, and with what objectives in mind
3 Confirm or modify SITPRO's provisional assessment of the position and objectives for action.

SITPRO's provisional view is that it would be wrong to think in terms of a large, single comprehensive EDP system to handle all information requirements within the UK for international trade purposes. It is felt much more likely that a number of relatively 'in-house' or modestly co-operative schemes will be thrown up, each with varying degrees of interest in intercommunication with the others (eg intercommunication between HM Customs and container operators).

SITPRO consider this preliminary inquiry may lead to a more detailed and extensive study looking particularly at the nature of the practical means of communication which would need to be provided nationally and internationally to facilitate the transfer of data between present and future EDP systems in international trade. Strategic responsibilities and optimum methods of organisations would also need to be looked at.

A representative cross-section of British companies including exporters, forwarders, inland and international carriers, port interests, banks etc. will be interviewed as part of the inquiry. Interested parties who wish to contribute their views are invited to contact the Leonard Griffiths and Associates investigation team direct at SITPRO, 26 Caxton Street, S.W.1 (tel. 01-222 3673/5). Leonard Griffiths and Associates has already successfully completed several contracts involving international trade, most recently a preliminary study on behalf of the EEC Commission with the objective of producing a long-term computer strategy for the Communities import/export functions.

New members for British Overseas Trade Board

As was forecast by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade and President of the British Overseas Trade Board in reply to a Parliamentary question last month, additional members have been invited to serve on the Board.

The new appointments are: the Duke of Kent; Lord Briginshaw, a member of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress; R. H. W. Bullock, CB a Deputy Secretary of the Department of Industry; Lord Limerick, President of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce; P. S. Preston, CB idc, a Deputy Secretary of the Department of Trade; Lord Shackleton, Executive Director of the Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation Ltd.; K. Taylor, Secretary of Export Credits Guarantee Department; John Whitehorn, CMG, Deputy Director of the Confederation of British Industry.

Sir Peter Allen, a founder member of the Board, has retired, as has R. Fell on his departure from ECGD.

The Board met under the chairmanship of Lord Thorneycroft on Tuesday of this week.

The appointment of the Duke of Kent as a working member of the British Overseas Trade Board will enable him to play an increasingly active part in the development of Britain's markets overseas. Members of the Board serve on a part-time basis and are not paid. Meetings are usually held monthly in the evenings and consequently this appointment will not interfere with the Duke's Army duties – he is at present a Staff Officer in the Ministry of Defence. His Royal Highness has in the past travelled abroad to promote British exports: in 1966 for the British Week in Lyon; in 1972 for the British Trade Drive in Denmark; and in 1973 he opened the British Export Marketing Centre in Tokyo. The Duke already has links with industry in his capacity as Deputy Chairman of the National Electronics Council.

Pilot scheme for British students in West Germany

A party of 12 British sixth form students left London for West Berlin on 6 February to spend three weeks gaining insight into the operations of major manufacturing companies in the Federal Republic of Germany. The visit is the first international project involving British students sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and organised by the Trident Trust and the Deutsch-Britischer Jugendaustausch.

It is hoped that this pilot scheme will become a continuing programme for British students to gain experience in other European countries. Its object is to stimulate in sixth form students an awareness of the importance of overseas trade and its implications for the UK.

Two major German companies, Siemens AG, manufacturers of electrical equipment, and Krone GmbH, chemicals manufacturers, have agreed to participate in the scheme and receive the British students. During their study period the students will be given an introduction to the companies' operating policies and practices, be shown over the companies' premises and be given a specific job of work to do.

Evening and weekend events have been arranged including a talk on the German trade union movement by a representative of the Trades Unions central office and discussion of the project with HM Consul-General in West Berlin, Mr. G. F. Edwards.

On their return to the UK, the students will provide a written account of their experiences and will complete a questionnaire to help the BOTB and the Trident Trust evaluate the scheme. A second group will spend a period working in export-orientated companies in this country later in the year.

Later the English students will come together for a day in London for a general discussion at the British Overseas Trade Board.

The Trident Trust is an educational charity registered with the Department of Education and Science. It was formed in 1972 with the object of giving young people, between the ages of 15 and 19, opportunities for personal experience which bring greater relevance to their school studies. The Trust is supported in its work by education authorities, employers, trade councils, volun-

The East European Trade Council gave a reception at the Savoy Hotel, London, on 4 February to introduce Lord Kearton as its new chairman in succession to the late Sir John Stevens. Guests included the ambassadors in London of East European countries, representatives of chambers of commerce and trade associations and leading industrialists. The East European Trade Council, formed about eight years ago, is the advisory group on Eastern Europe to the British Overseas Trade Board. In 1974 UK exports to the East European socialist countries amounted to £429 million, compared with £228 million. Lord Kearton, chairman of Courtaulds Ltd., has been active in East European trade for a number of years and has negotiated contracts for the supply and erection of man-made fibre plants in the Soviet Union and Poland. Pictured at the reception are (l. to r.): Mr. N. M. Lunkov, the Soviet Ambassador; Lord Kearton; Lady Kearton, and Mr. A. R. B. Hore, the executive secretary of the Council.

Great increase in UK exports to SE Asia

Britain's exports to Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand and the Philippines increased last year by 49 per cent over 1973 compared with a rise of 32 per cent in exports to the world as a whole, said Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, in a report to the London Chamber of Commerce on 7 February about his recent visit to South East Asia.

'Even discounting inflation, this represents a very substantial increase in real terms,' he added.

'The only complaint about the British performance in the region which I heard concerned delivery delays and shortages of spare parts. There is no doubt that this is causing very serious concern in each of the local British business communities and underlines the urgent need to create increased capacity in our exporting industries.'

South East Asia was not insulated from the difficulties facing other parts of the world. 'No single country or region today could be in that fortunate position.'

But countries like Malaysia and Indonesia were taking decisions now to press ahead with major industrial, agricultural and infrastructural development and to pursue policies of modest economic growth.

These plans would involve substantial procurement programmes for capital goods which should benefit Britain as one of the main suppliers to the region.

In Malaysia, where we were still the second most important supplier after Japan, there were good prospects for increasing our sales of machinery, transport equipment and chemical products, said Mr. Deakins.

Although not a traditional British market, Indonesia provided numerous opportunities for British firms to participate in the country's economic development. There were plans to build more sugar factories, timber processing plants, cement works, fertiliser plants and paper mills. There was a great demand for pumps, diesel generating sets, hand tools and agricultural equipment. There were firm plans to develop Indonesia's railways, inter-island shipping and roads.

'Our exports to Singapore increased by over 50 per cent last year and there is no reason why we should not record a further big increase this year,' Mr. Deakins said. Singapore's import requirements in the future were likely to be related to the development of new high technology industries such as telecommunications and computers.

'British exports to Thailand last year were up by nearly 40 per cent and to the Philippines by almost 70 per cent,' said Mr. Deakins.

Twelve British sixth-formers leaving this country on a BOTB-sponsored pilot scheme. They will spend three weeks working with major West German manufacturing companies.

tary organisations and local and national Government departments. Its president is Sir Robert Birley and the chairman is Lord Byers.

'Immense opportunities' for processed food in US market

'The US market for processed food is immense: £21,000 million in 1973 at wholesale value. In the same year, the UK achieved sales of £26 million at export prices to this market. There, in a nutshell, lies both the problem and the opportunity,' states Sir Alex Alexander, President of the British Food Export Council, in his foreword to a report *The Distribution of Imported Foodstuffs in the United States: First Step – Know Your Market*, commissioned by the British Food Export Council.

The report was launched at a British Overseas Trade Board/British Food Export Council press conference, chaired by Sir Alex in London on 4 February. It provides an up-to-date picture of the structure, trends and economics of the US market for processed foods.

Speaking at the presentation, Dennis Shattock, chairman of the BFEC, said 'with American reflation, the British exporter now has an even greater opportunity to make an impact on the US food market which continues to be the largest single market in the world. This report simplifies the complex US food distribution system and will help existing and potential exporters of all sizes to find the best means of placing their products in this market for the maximum results.'

The Distribution of Imported Foodstuffs in the United States: First Step – Know Your Market was commissioned by the British Food Export Council and was carried out by McKinsey and Company Inc.

The BOTB/British Food Export Council presentation of a survey on the distribution of imported foodstuffs in the United States. From left to right: Mr. J. D. Woodthorpe of McKinsey and Co. Inc., Sir Alex Alexander, Mr. D. F. J. Shattock, and General I. S. Harrison, President, Chairman and Director General, respectively, of the British Food Export Council.

Missions and Tours

Birmingham group to explore Middle East export chances

In continuation of its policy to explore every export opportunity, the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce has organised a business mission to Iraq, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan at the end of February. The current desire of Midland manufacturers to visit prospective markets in person is evidenced by the fact that the 20 places on this BOTB-supported mission were filled within a month of the issue of the prospectus – and inquiries have since been received from over 100 aspiring participants whose applications to join the mission have regretfully had to be rejected, writes T. L. Edgar, the Chamber's assistant secretary.

A further boost to the enthusiasm of companies wishing to sell in the Iraq market has been given by the recent report that the Solihull-based Rover Division of British Leyland has received an order for Land Rovers and Range Rovers valued at £5.5 million from the Central Agricultural Implements Committee, Baghdad.

A wide variety of quality British products is represented by the companies participating in the mission, ranging from electronic measuring instruments to automatic weighing and packing machines; from power boats to roller skates and wheeled toys; from domestic electrical appliances to stainless steel catering utensils for hotels, restaurants and hospitals; from tubes and pipes to large-scale irrigation equipment.

The mission will be led by B. J. Pearsall, MBE, a member of the Near and Middle East Executive Committee of the Birmingham Chamber, who has previously led a number of the Chamber's missions and who is managing director of Relite Electric Ltd., part of the Tube Investments Group.

Members taking part in the mission are: Fletcher Exports Ltd., (street lighting, industrial and flameproof lighting, irrigation equipment, earthmoving equipment spares); Marconi Instruments Ltd., Hertfordshire, (electronic test instrumentation used in broadcasting, telecommunications, education and scientific research); GEC Xpelair Ltd., Witton, (domestic electrical products, extractor fans, fan and convector heaters, cooker hoods etc.); Driver Southall Ltd., (automatic weighing, filling and check-weighing machines for the food packaging Industry).

Midland Electric Manufacturing Co. Ltd., (electrical switch and fuse gear, motor control gear and wiring accessories); Salter Export Trading, West Bromwich, (commercial scales and weighing machines); Samuel Groves & Co. Ltd., Hockley, ('Mermaid' aluminium and stainless steel utensils and 'Gastronorm' food service containers); Serck Controls, Leamington Spa, (remote supervisory control systems, digital electronic system); Thorn Domestic Appliances (Export) Ltd., Havant, Hants (domestic appliances, electric food mixers, blenders, waste disposal units, rotary ironers, electric cookers, gas cookers etc.).

Lindner & Co. Ltd., (tubes, pipe fittings, valves, etc. for contractors and stockists); Bruno Electrical Ltd., Warwick, ('Bruno' electrical heaters); The Vapormatic Co. Ltd., (agricultural tractor and implement replacement parts and accessories); Relite Electric Ltd., Tipton, (industrial and commercial lighting fittings, street lighting, ceiling fans, flameproof lighting fittings); Armitage Shanks Ltd., Glasgow, (sanitaryware, plumbers brassware, Perspex baths also laboratory fittings); Chloride Alcad Ltd., Redditch ('Alcad' nickel cadmium rechargeable batteries); Morris Vulcan Ltd., Solihull, (range of junior and senior roller skates).

A further business mission to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States by the Near and Middle East Committee has already attracted inquiries from over 30 companies, although no prospectus has yet been issued.

These missions are only a small part of the export promotions being organised during 1975 by the Birmingham Chamber which has 11 missions visiting 15 countries, including the USSR, between now and the end of June, in addition to seven joint venture exhibitions in Europe, Africa and North America during the same period.

Food and drink trade eats into Singapore

From P. Sullivan, First Secretary, (Commercial), British High Commission, Singapore: When Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade Eric Deakins was in South-East Asia in December, he announced that at least 11 trade missions would visit Singapore during 1975.

The first of these, sponsored by the British Food Export Council, visited Singapore, 12-16 January. Led by Mike Allen, director of William Grant and Sons Ltd., the nine firms on the mission covered the fields of confectionery, dairy products, canned and preserved foods, bakers supplies and whisky, gin, sherry and port.

The down turn in world trade has slowed the sale of imported foodstuffs in Singapore but members were satisfied with the outcome of the mission. One firm reported repeat orders for £1,250 and another for £4,500. All viewed the longer term prospects for increased sales in Singapore as excellent. Those firms who were visiting for the first time were encouraged by the high reputation which British foodstuffs enjoy in the market and looked forward to some good business as the slow down in economic activity begins to pick-up.

In parallel with the mission visit, a prominent supermarket in Singapore, Cold Storage Ltd., put on a British Foods Fair. Local representatives of British firms arranged eye-catching displays of British foodstuffs, setting them off against the colourful Union Jack motif of COI display material, while overhead mobiles revolved gently in the cool air conditioning.

In this cheerful atmosphere, shoppers took full advantage of the special offers and bargains which were a particular attraction to the thrifty housewives of Singapore.

A party of 17 Swiss food buyers visited this country, 29-31 January, on a visit supported by the British Overseas Trade Board in association with the British Food Export Council. In the photograph, John G. L. Barclay (left), general manager, Europe, of W. A. Baxter and Sons Ltd., talks to Rene Scmid, head buyer of Magazine Zur Rheibrucke AG.

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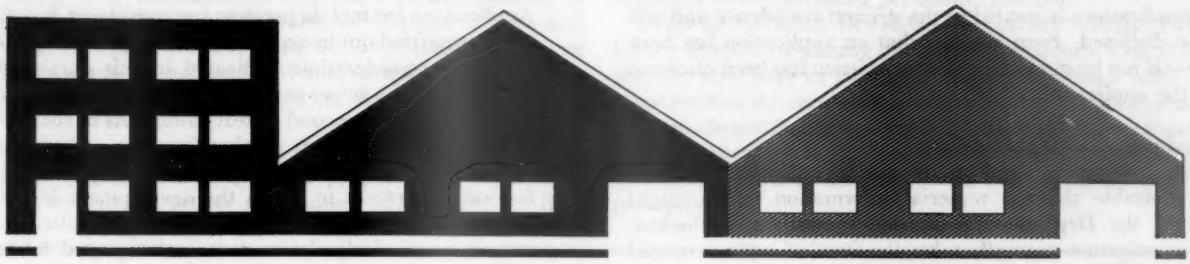
Industrial development certificate control



A guide for industry

This supplement, which supersedes one published in *Trade and Industry* on 21 June 1973, explains why and when industrial development certificates are required and where and how applications should be submitted. It outlines the criteria used by the Department in reaching decisions. The article reflects current legislation and policies. The procedures and criteria described are therefore liable to change from time to time.

Purpose of the control

The purpose of the industrial development certificate (IDC) control, which has existed since 1948, is to secure a better economic balance between the different parts of Great Britain. In practice this means encouraging the establishment of new industry and the expansion of existing industry in the Assisted Areas (AAs) comprising the Special Development Areas (SDAs), Development Areas (DAs) and Intermediate Areas (IAs) and, where appropriate, controlling the establishment of new industry and the expansion of existing industry in areas liable to pressure on available resources of labour.

Statutory provisions

The principal statutory provisions on the IDC control are contained in:

Town and Country Planning Act 1971, sections 66-70

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1972, sections 64-68

Town and Country Planning (Industrial Development Certificates: Exemption) (No 2) Order 1974 (SI 2028/1974)

Town and Country Planning (Industrial Development Certificates) Regulations 1972 (SI 904/1972), 1973 (SI 149/1973) and 1974 (SI 1418/1974).

Areas where the IDC control does not apply

IDCs are not required in the Development Areas (DAs), including the Special Development Areas (SDAs). These areas cover the whole of Scotland, most of Wales, the Northern Region of England, part of North Yorkshire, Merseyside (including Skelmersdale New Town), and most of Cornwall and North Devon. There is no IDC legislation in Northern Ireland.

When an IDC is required

An application for planning permission for an industrial development in England and Wales, outside the DAs, must be supported by an IDC if the industrial floor space to be created by that development (together with any related development) exceeds 5,000 sq. ft. in south eastern England, 15,000 sq. ft. in the IAs and 10,000 sq. ft. elsewhere. The statutory provisions about related development are contained in section 68 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971.

The industrial development to which the control applies are:

(a) the erection or re-erection of industrial buildings;
(b) extensions and alterations to existing buildings;
(c) the change of use of existing buildings from non-industrial to industrial purposes.

An IDC may also be required to support a planning application for:

(d) the retention of industrial use where that use has been started without appropriate planning permission;
(e) the retention of industrial buildings (or continuation of industrial use) without complying with conditions subject to which planning permission was granted.

The decision whether to give planning permission for the development rests with the local planning authority and the issue of an IDC does not imply that planning permission will be granted. Firms may find it helpful to have preliminary discussions with local planning authorities before submitting their planning applications.

How to apply

It is generally most convenient for applications to be made on forms available from the Regional Offices of the Department of Industry. The forms ask for some basic information needed for the Department's consideration of the application.

Completed IDC application forms should be sent to the Regional Office of the Department appropriate to the location of the development together with any supporting information which the applicant wishes to provide. It is helpful to the Department if applicants set out clearly

(a) the labour demand, in terms of numbers and skills, expected to rise from the proposed development;
(b) the reasons for siting the development in the location proposed rather than in a DA; and
(c) the consequences for output and efficiency of both approval and refusal of the application.

The Department is always ready to discuss with firms informally the likelihood of a specific project being approved for

a particular locality before an application for an IDC is made. Where proposals can usefully be considered in the context of the operations of a group of companies, the Department welcomes opportunities to discuss the plans of the group as a whole. Such discussion provides a helpful framework for consideration of individual applications.

All information given to the Government in connection with IDC applications is treated in the strictest confidence and will not be disclosed. Even the fact that an application has been made will not be disclosed unless permission has been obtained from the applicant.

Investigation of applications

Where necessary, applications are investigated in detail. It is desirable that no material information which might influence the Department's decision should be overlooked. The investigation normally takes the form of a pre-arranged meeting with the firm. This affords the applicant an opportunity to explain fully his reasons for considering that the application should be approved. These reasons may include ties to the location (eg through the availability of specialised services, dependence on local sources of supply, or a limited distribution area); problems which would arise from operating from widely separated locations; modernisation of premises; increased efficiency. The Department usually draws attention to the substantial financial assistance available in the AAs and Northern Ireland and inquires into the applicant's reasons for not siting the project in a DA or, where appropriate, in an IA.

The Department gives decisions on IDC applications as quickly as possible. Applicants should, however, bear in mind that the investigation and consideration of applications often takes several weeks, and may take longer in exceptionally difficult cases. It helps to get speedy decisions if applicants supply quickly any additional information the Department asks for.

Criteria for decisions

In issuing an IDC, the Secretary of State certifies 'that the development in question can be carried out consistently with the proper distribution of industry'. He is required, in reaching decisions, to 'have particular regard to the need for providing appropriate employment in development areas'.

Each application is necessarily considered on its individual merits in the context of the statutory provisions. The Department's starting point is the circumstances of the applicant firm and the case it has made for carrying out the proposed development at the chosen location. Where a company or group of companies operates from more than one place, the operations may be treated as a whole. In reaching decisions the Department distinguishes between applications according to the location of the project (IA or elsewhere) and in the light of other factors such as those indicated below. There is no differentiation based on the Department's regional boundaries, although even within a region the Department's attitude to a given project may differ from one location to another according to local circumstances. Detailed advice on the Department's likely attitude to development at particular places is available from the Regional Offices concerned.

In the IAs, IDCs are generally freely available for the projects of firms well established in the IA concerned. Newcomers may, however, have to show that they could not reasonably be expected to go to an SDA or DA, and the Department may also wish to discuss in which particular location applicants' needs for labour can best be met.

Outside the IAs, applications are examined more critically. The principal factors taken into account are:

(a) First, the extent to which the development is considered to be mobile as to location, and in particular whether the development is capable of being carried out in a DA or alternatively in an IA.

Projects likely to be considered mobile include major developments by established businesses requiring new sites some distance from existing locations and any completely new manufacturing venture. Projects considered mobile to an AA may be refused IDCs. Applications for mobile projects not considered capable of being carried out in an AA are decided in the light of the other considerations indicated in this paragraph. The needs of the active new and expanded towns outside the AAs are given second priority after AAs in consideration of mobile projects coming from the conurbation associated with the new or expanded town.

(b) Second, the extent to which the development is compatible with the needs and resources of the locality concerned, particularly the current and expected labour situation.

Applications for localities where labour resources are particularly strained (for example, some parts of south-east England and of the Midlands) are examined especially carefully and may be refused whether or not the project is considered to be mobile. On the other hand, projects in keeping with the needs of localities which have special employment problems are viewed sympathetically, subject always to consideration of the extent to which the projects are mobile. Applications by existing occupants to modernise and improve their premises (for example, in inner city areas), or to improve efficiency, are considered sympathetically if the projects involve no more than modest increases in labour and no significant change in the range of products.

Subject to the considerations outlined in this paragraph firms, can usually depend on a sympathetic response to proposals for modest expansion on sites where they are long established, particularly if the expansion relates to existing ranges of products. Firms which have been granted IDCs for a number of expansion schemes outside the AAs may, however, be pressed to locate further growth in an AA.

IDCs for industrial developments proposed on a speculative basis, ie where the occupier is unknown at the time of the IDC application, are usually available in the IAs for projects of reasonable size in relation to the resources and requirements of the locality, subject to certain consultation arrangements. Outside the AAs, IDCs are not issued for private sector speculative developments, but in some circumstances IDCs may be issued for advance factories to be erected by local authorities or new town development corporations subject to certain conditions and consultation arrangements.

It will be apparent from the preceding paragraphs that applications for certain types of project and for projects in some areas are examined particularly thoroughly. Firms should not be deterred from making applications by the prospect of this scrutiny of their proposals. The Department considers all applications on their merits, is flexible in its approach, and is able to approve a very high proportion of applications. Even in the most difficult cases the Department may sometimes be able to suggest acceptable compromises.

Refusals and appeals

If the Department considers a proposed development is not consistent with the proper distribution of industry, a formal letter to that effect is sent to the applicant by the Regional Office. This letter is usually accompanied by an informal letter giving reasons for the refusal and, where appropriate, inviting the applicant to consider alternative locations and offering all possible assistance if he wishes to do so.

Although there is no statutory right of appeal against the

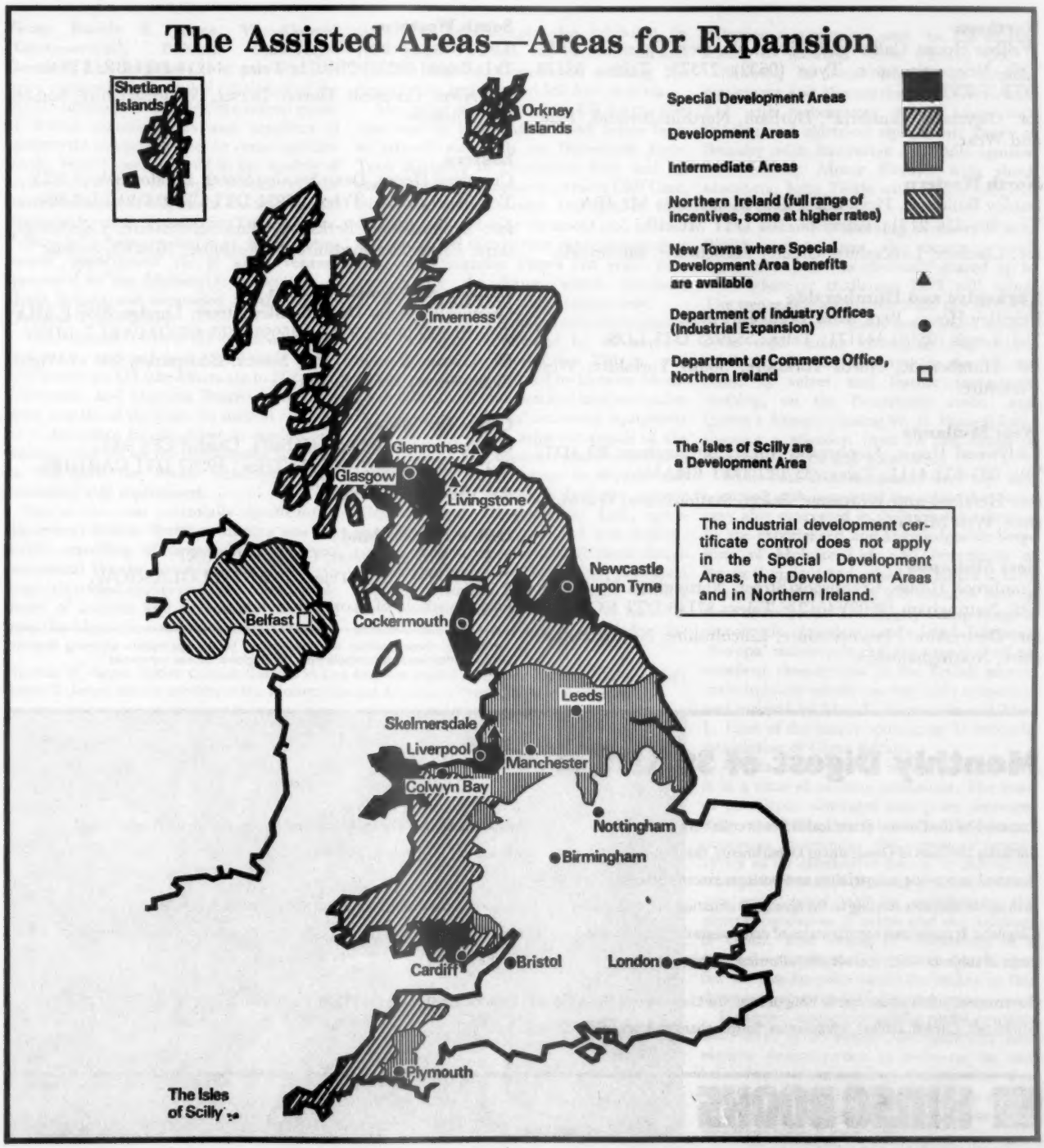
refusal of an IDC, the Department fully recognises the right of an applicant to ask for a refusal to be reconsidered. This is usually best begun by means of a meeting with the Regional Director or another senior official in the Regional Office. A fuller explanation of the reasons for the refusal can then be given by the Department and the basis of the appeal explained by the firm. If relevant new arguments or information, or modified proposals, are put forward, the Department may find that there are grounds for revising the initial decision. In some instances appeals are referred to Headquarters, where a meeting may be held with the firm before the appeal is decided.

Approvals

If the Department considers a proposed development is consistent with the proper distribution of industry, the IDC is issued by the Department's Regional Office. A duplicate is also supplied to be sent to the planning authority with the application for planning permission.

Each IDC is issued subject to restrictions and conditions. The restrictions relate to the making of planning applications. The conditions are subsequently included, or deemed to be included, in any planning permission granted.

There are normally two restrictions on the validity of IDCs for the purpose of making planning applications. One secures that the IDC may be used by a specified applicant only. The other renders the certificate invalid if the planning application is not made within a stated period, usually 12 months from the date of issue of the IDC. Time-expired certificates can usually be replaced without difficulty if the new certificate is sought promptly.



The condition most frequently included is one specifying by whom and for what purpose the building shall first be used. Other conditions may, for example, limit the amount of space to be used for production purposes in a building for which an IDC is issued. A condition may sometimes limit the future use of premises which are to be vacated, where these are situated in the area of the same local planning authority as the proposed new development; it is the practice to discuss conditions of this kind fully with the applicant before issuing an IDC. (Where existing premises are in a different local planning authority area from the proposed new development, other arrangements for limiting their future use may occasionally be agreed with the applicant.)

Further information

Copies of this article and further information about the IDC control and about the financial incentives available in the AAs are obtainable from the Department's Regional Offices detailed below. Literature on the financial incentives is also available from the Department of Industry, Millbank Tower, London SW1P 4QU (tel. 01-211 6486).

Department of Industry Regional Offices

Northern
Wellbar House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4TR.
Tel: Newcastle upon Tyne (0632) 27575; Telex: 53178 DTI N TYNE.
for: Cleveland, Cumbria*, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear.

North Western
Sunley Buildings, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA.
Tel: 061-236 2171; Telex: 667104 DTI MCHR.
for: Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside.

Yorkshire and Humberside
Priestley House, Park Row, Leeds LS1 5LF.
Tel: Leeds (0532) 443171; Telex: 557925 DTI LDS.
for: Humberside, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire.

West Midlands
Ladywood House, Stephenson Street, Birmingham B2 4DT.
Tel: 021-632 4111; Telex: 337021 DTI BHAM.
for: Hereford and Worcester, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands.

East Midlands
Cranbrook House, Cranbrook Street, Nottingham NG1 1ES.
Tel: Nottingham (0602) 46121; Telex: 37143 DTI NOTTM.
for: Derbyshire*, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire.

South Western
The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2PB.
Tel: Bristol (0272) 291071; Telex: 44214 DTI BRISTOL.
for: Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire.

Eastern
Cromwell House, Dean Stanley Street, London SW1P 3HY.
Tel: 01-212 7676; Telex: 25991 DTI CROMWELL LDN.
for: Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk.

London and South Eastern
Cromwell House, Dean Stanley Street, London SW1P 3HY.
Tel: 01-212 7676; Telex: 25991 DTI CROMWELL LDN.
for: Greater London, East Sussex, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Surrey, West Sussex.

Office for Wales
Government Buildings, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YL.
Tel: Cardiff (0222) 62131; Telex: 49267 DTI CARDIFF.
for: the whole of Wales.

Office for Scotland
314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF.
Tel: 041-248 2855; Telex: 77583 DTI GLASGOW.
for: the whole of Scotland.

* Parts of these counties are administered by the appropriate adjoining Regions. Detailed information is available from the Regional Offices concerned.

Monthly Digest of Statistics

Prepared by the Central Statistical Office in collaboration with the Statistics Division of Government Departments, this digest is designed to provide industrialists and business executives with invaluable statistics relating to the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It contains a regular series of detailed statistics on a wide range of subjects which include the following: *Labour, Fuel and Power, External Trade, Wages and Prices, Industrial Production, Industrial Materials, Finance.*

Price 85p (*by post* £1). Annual Subscription £12 including postage, and a copy of the Definitions of items and units employed in the Digest.

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers.

HMSO BOOKS

Exhibitions and Fairs

US showcase for latest motorcycle models

From Barrie S. Jones, Vice-Consul (Commercial), British Consulate-General, Los Angeles: In a year that has been euphemistically called 'challenging' by the US motorcycle industry, the largest group of British manufacturers and suppliers of motorcycle equipment ever to come together on the West Coast gathered in the shadow of Disneyland's 150 ft. high replica of the Matterhorn to participate in the 9th Annual Motorcycle and Accessory Trade Show. From 15-17 January, some 17 British companies participated in a joint venture sponsored by the Motorcycle Association of Great Britain and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board.

The Anaheim event is the first in a series of four major regional motorcycle trade shows held across the US (the others are in Houston, Cincinnati, and Daytona Beach) in the first three months of the year. As such, it tends to be a showplace for the latest in models and trends in the US for the forthcoming year and in this spirit the British contingent were extremely well represented.

One of the most potentially significant of the several British 'firsts' on display was the public unveiling of Norton-Triumph's experimental Wankel rotary engine. This twin rotor, air cooled engine created a considerable flurry of interest and favourable comment from this highly innovation-conscious marketplace. Norton-Triumph also exhibited its 1975 model Triumph 750 cc. Trident and Norton's 850 cc. Commando utilising the new electric ignition and left foot controls.

Also being displayed in the US for the first time was the handcrafted motor frame built to aircraft standards by Dimension Four. Tony Kirkaldy of Dimension Four and his stand companion, motorcycle racer Cliff Carr, found the unique design and quality construction aroused wide comment and at least two major US distributors expressed interest in taking Dimension Four's first year's production for the frame – which currently houses a Honda CB 750 cc. engine unit.

The best in British motorcycle performance machines were represented by the superb-handling Griffon Moto-Cross 250 cc. and 380 cc. machines exhibited by Greeves Motor Cycles Ltd., while the best and most attractive in café racing 'add-on' accessory equipment could be seen at the adjacent stands of the Paul Dunstall Organisation and Read Titan.

The other major name in British café racing, Queen's Award to Industry winner Rickman Bros. (Engineering) Ltd., again participated in this show and was concentrating on its latest range of café racer chassis and accessories for the Honda 750, Kawasaki Z-1 and Triumph 650/750 Twins. With a view to expanding penetration in the US market, Rickman has now concluded a distribution arrangement with the US market leader in fairings, Vetter Fairing Co.

Showing its latest offerings in original equipment and aftermarket parts were Amal Ltd. with carburettors; Joseph Lucas with lighting and electrical equipment; Boyer of Bromley with innovative electronic ignition sets; Lavery Motor Factors with shock absorbers; John Tickle with a wide range of racing equipment.

The motorcycle clothing accessory side of British industry was also extremely well represented and was obviously geared up to meet whatever challenges 1975 will bring. The two major attractions from this sector of the industry were: seven times world motorcycle road racing champion Phil Read, exhibiting for the first time in the US his range of velvet and leather motorcycle clothing, on the Powertrade stand; and Queen's Award-winning W. E. Wassell Ltd., showing a selection from its vast range of motorcycle parts and accessories.

While both these companies were kept well occupied with interested inquirers, they were very ably supported in their pitch for Britain by the experienced and knowledgeable Serge Binn of Mobyke Ltd. and Bill Smith of Britax (London) Ltd. who both added to their existing wide range of US contacts and to their order books. The Hagity-Remp range of motorcycle panniers and Jeltek-Johnson's 'Europa' motorcycle clothing rounded off an excellent cross-section of the British motorcycle industry which was very ably supported and assisted by Mrs. L. Simmonds and Mrs. L. Hart of the jointly sponsoring Motorcycle Association of Great Britain.

At this time, the US motorcycle industry is in a state of cautious pessimism. The fears of petroleum shortages and price increases may cause the largely automobile-oriented consumer to examine the virtues of motorcycles as an alternative means of individual transport but any demand generated from this angle could well be nullified by the general escalation in prices and the tightness of credit. This feeling of uncertainty in a general atmosphere of recession ensured that few records for sales would be broken at this show as dealers trim their inventories.

However, many potentially useful contacts were made by the British contingent and their obvious determination to persevere in, and learn from, this market is an optimistic sign that the British motorcycle industry is geared up to meet the 1975 challenge in the US – whatever form it may take.

Thomas W. Aston, British Consul-General in Los Angeles (right), and Vice-Consul (Commercial) Barrie S. Jones admire exhibits at the Motorcycle and Accessory Trade Show in Anaheim.

Exports of lighting equipment to France are expected to grow

From James Jordan, Commercial Dept., British Embassy, Paris: The 10th International Lighting Exhibition was held in Paris, 15-20 January. In a time of energy conservation, the accent at the show was on more intelligent use of lighting: better illumination with less consumption, easier maintenance with no decline in safety.

Participation was truly international with companies or their representatives from not only seven countries of the European Economic Community but from Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hong Kong, Japan, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United States.

As in previous years, British participation in the event took place under the aegis of the BOTB and in collaboration with the Decorative Lighting Association. Of the 21 British firms taking part, 20 were officially supported. Companies representing all levels of the British lighting industry were present, from the small concern supplying high quality, hand finished products, through the medium sized to the large, long established company with its own subsidiary in France, as well as other markets.

It was encouraging to find that many of the British participants considered the show as an opening shot in their 1975 campaign to break into and, in some cases, expand in the French market. The relative buoyancy of the retail market in the United Kingdom has not distracted the serious attention of the actual and potential exporters from the rigours of competition and the rewards in France's large and lucrative market.

A sustained growth in British exports of lighting equipment to France is to be expected, especially if the French economy is maintained in its present reasonably healthy state. Confidence in the expectancy of this growth is further encouraged by good reports of short and medium delivery dates and highly competitive prices. In some instances, British products are expected to sell retail level at prices substantially below those of foreign competitors offering products of similar design and quality.

True to its international nature, the show aroused interest in buyers and visitors from countries outside France.

G. F. Finlayson, Commercial Counsellor, British Embassy, Paris (left), being enlightened by a United Kingdom exhibitor. The event was last month's International Lighting Exhibition in the French capital.

Tokyo: Internepcon wares win interest

From F. J. Field, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tokyo: The 26 British exhibitors at Internepcon formed the single largest group and formed 10 per cent of the total number of participants at the show. Although the Japanese electronics industry has temporarily de-departed from its growth track, the number of visitors to the exhibition was only marginally down on the previous year. Renewed growth is forecast for 1976 and thereafter. This makes the Japanese market, where the demand for components is as large as for the whole of Europe put together, one of the most interesting in the world.

Many of the British exhibitors had attended earlier Internepcons as this was the fourth consecutive joint venture. There were, however, a number of newcomers and one of them, Critchley Bros., was able to appoint an agent early on in the exhibition. Others, such as Micro-Image Technology Ltd., Milton Ross Ltd., ITT Components Group Ltd., Noronix Ltd., Procirc Developments Ltd. and Tool & Components Ltd. made many contacts and are confident of establishing agency agreements in the very near future.

Despite the lack of buoyancy in the market, exhibitors reported good interest in their products, particularly equipment which automates the testing of components and cuts labour costs. Ferranti, for instance, was pleased with the interest shown in its computer-aided design equipment. As always, Japanese visitors are delighted to see new products and the recently developed air bearing spindles of Federal-Mogul Westwind Air Bearings, which operate at 130,000 rpm, were a great attraction. The company hopes for increased sales this year.

Useful business is expected later on in the year when it is predicted that production in Japan will increase once again. Exhibitors at the event, 22-25 January, reported that potential orders during the year could come close to £1 million.

UK group for Tehran

A group of 45 British firms will take part in the Tehran International Building Construction Engineering Materials and Equipment Fair, 20-25 June, the first Iranian exhibition specifically devoted to the products of the world's construction industries.

With the support of the British Overseas Trade Board and sponsored by the Building Materials Export Group, the members of the joint venture group will display some of their latest construction techniques, including heating, ventilation and insulation systems, roofing materials and building finishes.

This export promotion is one of many Government-backed marketing efforts. It is designed to further the exchange of trade between the United Kingdom and one of the world's fastest expanding economies. It is given added significance by the recent announcement by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, that the United Kingdom and Iran have signed an agreement on technical, industrial and economic co-operation.

NY fine furniture forum

From British Trade Development Office, New York: Winter Home Furnishings Market, New York, 12-17 January: The Great Bed of Ware, a reproduction of the famous four-poster now in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, was the star of the recent joint British exhibit at the National Furniture Mart in New York. The bed was made by Wood Bros. of Hertfordshire.

A total of eight British manufacturers showed furniture and accessories which included fine reproduction furniture in both 18th century English and Louis XIV styles, as well as period chairs and settees upholstered in leather. The 17th century art of glass painting was revived by two British firms which showed framed pictures, coffee and occasional tables and small cabinets.

Reaction to the show was disappointing and reflected the present depressed state of the US economy. With the exception of the opening day, buyer traffic was light. However, in spite of this business was done and three firms were successful in appointing representatives.

Zurich: Britain has only national group at international power transmission show

From W. Boenheim, British Consulate-General, Zürich: The 5th International Power Transmission Exhibition was held 20-25 January at Zürich's Zuspa Exhibition Centre. The fair took place in two halls and covered an area of about 10,000 m². There were 115 exhibitors displaying products from 363 manufacturers coming from 17 countries, of which 157 manufacturers were from Western Germany, 58 from Switzerland, 42 from Great Britain, 23 from France, 20 from USA and 19 from Italy.

The only national group stand at this exhibition came from the United Kingdom, with six British manufacturers and Trade and Technical Press Ltd. participating. Sponsor of the joint venture group was the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce with the support of British Overseas Trade Board.

This was the first time a British joint venture group took part at a driving power technique exhibition in Switzerland and, although the British contingent was not large, the six manufacturers displaying transmission gears, variable speed motors, pneumatic clutches, tooth belts and hydraulic motors considered without exception, this a valuable and profitable fair.

This exhibition demonstrated again that technical trade fairs held in Switzerland are truly international in the sense that many of the 11,500 visitors came from all over the Continent and from overseas countries as evidenced by the many inquiries British exhibitors received from nearby nations like Austria, Italy, Sweden, Poland, Hungary and from places as far away as Brazil and the Far East.

With 363 manufacturers exhibiting, competition, of course, was extremely strong, especially in such equipment as transmission gears, clutches and tooth belts. Even so, Switzerland is a rewarding market for manufacturers of such components which in most cases are re-exported as part of a finished Swiss-made engineering product.

This fact, plus the interest shown by buyers from the rest of Europe, was appreciated by the British participants at this exhibition and, although most of them already have an agent in Switzerland, indicates that they will certainly participate at the next Power Transmission Exhibition which will be held in Zürich two years from now.

BOTB's chief executive at Blackpool gift fair

Speaking at the 26th International Gifts Fair in Blackpool last week, J. Rooke, chief executive of British Overseas Trade Board, emphasised the important role of jewellery and giftware in Britain's total exports. Mr. Rooke stressed the need to export more of those products to which the greatest values had been added in Britain to imported raw materials. In this way the highest possible return in foreign exchange could be achieved by British companies.

Mr. Rooke said there was a prime opportunity for the jewellery and giftware industries to increase their overseas sales since, for overseas buyers, a most important factor was traditional British skills in design and craftmanship and our genius for innovation. These factors were as important as the materials from which the goods were made.

Reviewing Britain's export performance, Mr. Rooke said the value of our exports was 35 per cent higher in 1974 than in 1973 and, although about three-quarters of this increase was due to higher export prices, the volume of exports rose by between 7-8 per cent last year.

The International Gifts Fair, 2-6 February, had some 1,200 exhibitors.

spring fair

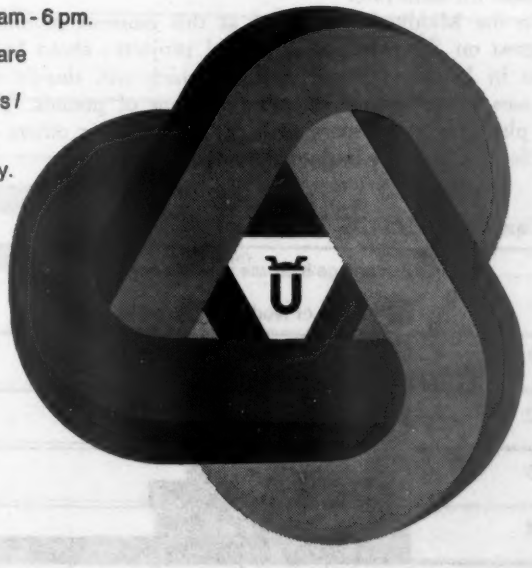
utrecht netherlands
2nd - 6th march 1975
daily from 9 am - 6 pm, but on sunday 2nd march from 10 am - 6 pm.

clocks, gold and silverware / glassware, pottery, crystalware and china / cutlery / housewares / giftware / far eastern articles / handicraft articles / costume jewellery / toileteries / smoker's requisites / lighting goods / leather goods / toys, handicraft and hobby requisites, sports goods and party novelties / office supplies and -machines / stationery.

relatie'75

exhibition of business gifts and free gift articles - to be staged concurrently with the spring fair.

organisation/catalogue
royal netherlands industries fair, utrecht
phone: (030) 914 914 - telex 47132.



Trade Information

UK exports to Middle East increase by 53 per cent

Opportunities in the Middle East for British firms extend 'well beyond exporting in the traditional sense', said Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, on 5 February. 'They are also there for the City and a great range of consultancy services.' Mr. Shore, who was speaking at the Middle East Association's 'At Home', said that the Middle East already buys 8 per cent of our total visible exports. This proportion is now bigger by a third than it was at the start of this decade, he said, and went on: 'Because of the oil wealth and major development ambitions of many Middle Eastern countries it will rank higher in our visible and invisible trade accounts in the future.'

The Secretary of State spoke of his recent visit to Iran as leader of the British delegation at a 'most rewarding' session of the Joint Ministerial Economic Commission (see *Trade and Industry*, 6 February, page 316). 'I was enormously impressed by the size and variety of Iranian requirements,' said Mr. Shore. 'The agreements signed at the end of our meetings – including as they did a new programme of joint ventures and major new areas of co-operation ranging from railway electrification to hospitals – offer wide scope for enterprise by very many people in this country.

'For the scale of Middle Eastern plans is indeed staggering. Iran is aiming almost to triple real national income per head during the five years ending in 1978. Since the increase in oil prices, Iran has doubled her provision for capital investment – she will be spending *68 billion dollars* over five years. Saudi Arabia has done likewise and will be spending at about the same rate.

'In the Middle East we are at this moment monitoring progress on 50 really major capital projects – about half of them in Iran and Saudi Arabia – which will shortly offer business worth several thousand millions of pounds. There are plans for many more such projects and for others of a smaller size. All offer business potential.

'In the most readily measurable sector, that of visible exports, how is Britain faring in Middle Eastern markets? The complete figures for 1974 are now to hand. They provide a great deal of encouragement as well as signposts to a still more buoyant future.

'In three markets – Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and Dubai and the Northern Emirates – Britain more than doubled the value of its exports last year compared with 1973.

'In Egypt and Oman our exports increased by over 90 per cent.

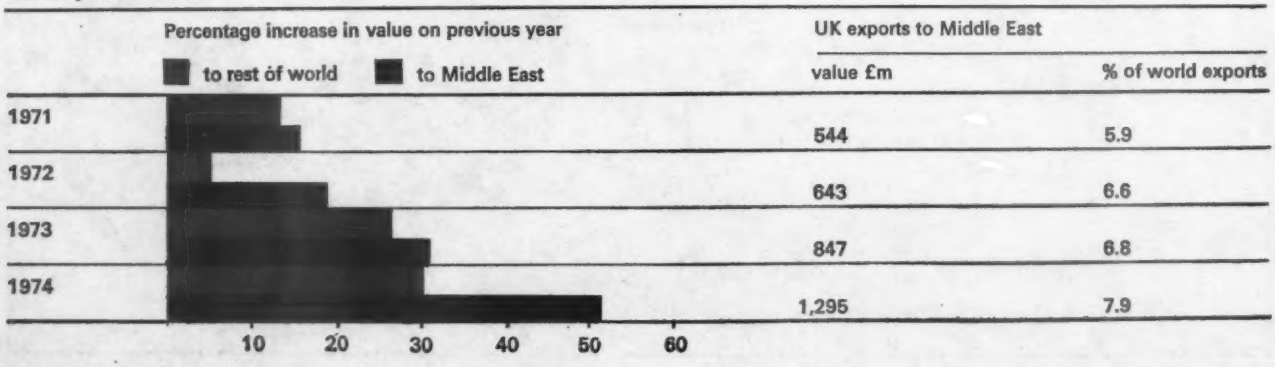
'In six countries – including Iran, now our largest customer in the Middle East – British exports grew by more than half. The actual percentage increases in this group are: Syria 80 per cent, Morocco and Abu Dhabi 73 per cent, Iran 64 per cent, Kuwait 66 per cent and Jordan 54 per cent.

'Indeed, taking the Middle East as a whole last year our exports surged forward by no less than 53 per cent to reach a total of £1,295 million. And extending the period of comparison a little in value terms we sold exactly *twice* as much to the Middle East in 1974 as we did in 1972. This was very much faster growth than we had in exports to the rest of the world, where between those two years the rise was 66 per cent. And it is all the more encouraging when we remember that to a large extent these increased exports to the Middle East stem from orders placed before the quadrupling of oil prices.

'A similar picture of success is shown by the operations of the Export Credits Guarantee Department which in the first nine months of 1974 insured more export business than in the whole of 1973.

'In addition to the countries I have already mentioned ECGD has covered a great deal of business with Algeria including a £32 million contract for natural gas plant and a £17 million contract for consultancy services for an extension to El Hadjar steelworks. This is the largest consultancy project ECGD has insured.

UK exports 1971-74



	UK exports to Middle East	
	value £m	% of world exports
1971	544	5.9
1972	643	6.6
1973	847	6.8
1974	1,295	7.9

The Lord Mayor of London (left), with Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, and Sir Michael Wilson at a Mansion House lunch for the city members of the Export Guarantees Advisory Council. Sir Michael is chairman of the council, which advises ECGD on its commercial business.

'The safeguards and potential Middle Eastern contracts for which ECGD has been approached already amount to over £3,000 million. They cover the whole range of public works projects equipment for oil and petrochemicals, agriculture and transport.

'We must all be very glad that at last the peoples of the Middle East can now forge their own destinies and revive the spirit of their communities. The more they develop, the more they will be able to contribute to international affairs in what I believe will be a positive and responsible way.

'It is sometimes said that oil is the key to their progress. I would prefer to say that it is not so much a key but the means by which they can acquire a whole bunch of keys: the key to administrative order, the key to social welfare, the key to cultural renaissance, the key to technological advance and to much else.

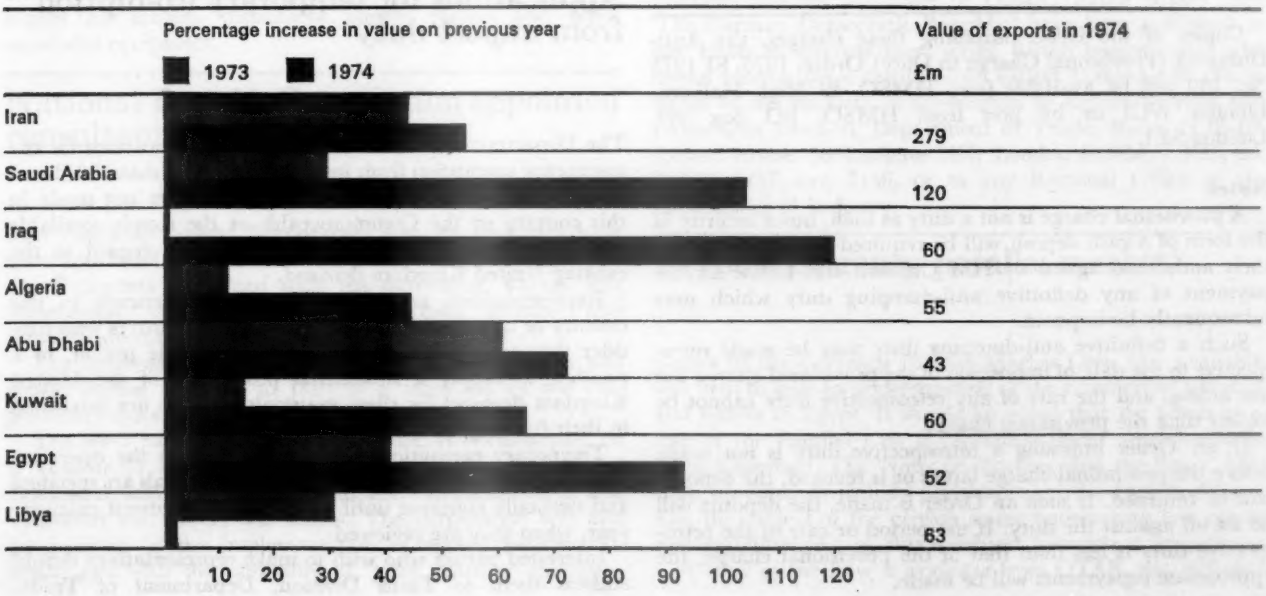
'We can offer much help. Because many of their needs are human, the demand now is often for total development concepts including training and a range of skills; not until the next phase can they be regarded as a conventionally developed market with domestic capacity and a demand mainly for manufactures.

'I hope that British businessmen will increasingly inform themselves of the nature of opportunities as these changes occur and organise their assaults on the markets with the speed and energy that they demand. Meanwhile the Government with the British Overseas Trade Board will increase its support in such matters as market information, trade promotion and training facilities to back you in competing for the supply of plant and materials. We are also looking carefully at the work of the Overseas Projects Group and I hope that we shall be able to reinforce its operations.

'As was shown in Iran last week, Government-to-Government contracts are particularly important in developing trading, financial and industrial relations with Middle Eastern countries. I have increased the staff in the Department of Trade devoted to the area, having created a new policy division to deal specifically with trade arrangements with the Governments concerned and to probe the markets. And in terms of my own efforts I regard the Middle East as a priority area.

'We should qualify our satisfaction at the buoyant state of our Middle Eastern trade by the thought that British firms face increasingly strong competition. Although most of the other major manufacturing countries have started from a smaller base than ours in Middle Eastern markets in the recent past at least, their business has been accelerating even faster. We must make sure that every company in Britain with a capability in Middle Eastern markets knows the enormous opportunities existing there now and the still more exciting prospect for the future.'

UK exports to Middle Eastern countries 1973-74



Wood chipboard anti-dumping application

The Department of Trade is considering an application for the imposition of anti-dumping duties under the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act, 1969, on wood chipboard other than wood chipboard surface treated with resin impregnated papers (eg Melamine) imported from Romania and named producers in Norway and Sweden. This application may be extended to include other countries exporting wood chipboard to the UK at prices which appear to be dumped.

A statement of the applicants' claim will be supplied to interested parties who give an undertaking to treat the information in strict confidence. Any representations in connection with this application, other than from the foreign suppliers with whom special arrangements will be made, should be submitted in writing not later than 7 March 1975. Such representations, in summarised form and without attribution to the source, may be passed to the applicants for comment. Those making the representations should stipulate any particular matters which they do not wish to be disclosed.

Requests for copies of the statement, together with an undertaking in the terms set out above, should be sent in writing to Tariff Division, Department of Trade, Room 339, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Pending completion of its investigation of the anti-dumping application the Department of Trade has made an Order imposing for a period of three months from 11 February 1975, provisional charges to anti-dumping duty on imports of wood chipboard other than wood chipboard surface treated with resin impregnated papers (eg Melamine) from Romania and named producers in Norway and Sweden. The charges imposed range from £4 to £16 per cubic metre. Provisional charges may also be imposed on other producers found to be exporting to the UK at prices which appear to be dumped. The rates of charges are:

Country	Producer(s)	Amount of provisional charge per cubic metre
Norway	A. S. Arbor Ltd.	£4
	A/L Orkla Skogindustri, Namdal Skogindustri, A/S or A/S Saga Skogindustri	£9
Sweden	Skogsagarnal Industri AB	£12
Romania		£16

Copies of the Order imposing these charges, the Anti-Dumping (Provisional Charge to Duty) Order, 1975, SI 1975 No. 140 will be available from HMSO, 49 High Holborn, London WC1 or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1.

Notes

A provisional charge is not a duty as such, but a security in the form of a cash deposit will be required from importers or their authorised agents by HM Customs and Excise for the payment of any definitive anti-dumping duty which may subsequently be imposed.

Such a definitive anti-dumping duty may be made retrospective to the date of imposition of the provisional charge but not before, and the rate of any retrospective duty cannot be higher than the provisional charge.

If an Order imposing a retrospective duty is not made before the provisional charge lapses or is revoked, the deposits will be returned. If such an Order is made, the deposits will be set off against the duty. If the period or rate of the retrospective duty is less than that of the provisional charge, the appropriate repayments will be made.

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Industry (right), with Paul Martin, High Commissioner for Canada in the UK (centre), and Group Captain J. Greenhalgh, president of the Canada UK Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Benn addressed members of the chamber at their luncheon in London last week.

Suspension of anti-dumping duties on saccharin

The Department of Trade, after reviewing the current market situation, has made an Order suspending for a further period of 12 months the anti-dumping duties on imports of saccharin and its salts originating in Japan and in the Republic of Korea, which were imposed from 24 August 1965 by the Anti-Dumping Duty Order, 1965.

The new Order, the Anti-Dumping Duty (Temporary Suspension) (No. 2) Order 1975 (SI 1975 No. 113) comes into operation on 1 March. Before the end of the period of suspension the situation will be re-examined.

Copies of the Order will be obtainable from HMSO, 49 High Holborn, London WC1 (price 4p) or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 (price 7½).

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade,

Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a trade association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by 27 February.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
39.02	Polyethylene in forms mentioned in Note 3(b) to Chapter 39, yellow, for use in the manufacture of gas service and distribution pipes	Hostalen GM 5050 yellow	31 December 1975	15121
73.18	Oilwell casing, being seamless steel pipes externally threaded at both ends and having a steel coupling screwed on to the threads at one end, in overall lengths of not less than 7.62 m. and not more than 13.2 m. with an outside diameter apart from the coupling of not less than 138 mm. and not more than 141 mm. and a wall thickness apart from the coupling of not less than 6.5 mm. and not more than 8.5 mm.	5½ in. OD casing	31 December 1975	14666
	Oilwell casing, being seamless steel pipes externally threaded at both ends and having a steel coupling screwed on to the threads at one end, in overall lengths of not less than 7.62 m. and not more than 13.2 m. with an outside diameter apart from the coupling of not less than 175 mm. and not more than 180 mm. and a wall thickness apart from the coupling of not less than 8 mm. and not more than 10 mm.	7 in. OD casing	31 December 1975	14666

New oil refinery for Portugal: £11m loan backed by ECGD

An £11 million loan which Baring Brothers, acting on behalf of a consortium of London clearing and Scottish banks, has arranged with Petrosul-Sociedade Portuguesa de Refinacao de Petroleos SARL (Petrosul), Portugal, has been guaranteed by the ECGD.

The loan will help finance a £12 million contract between Procon (Great Britain) Ltd. and Petrosul. Procon will be responsible for providing detailed design work and construction supervision involved in a new oil refinery which is to be built at Sines about 90 miles south of Lisbon. Procon will also supply air coolers, instrument panels, pumps and other associated equipment.

National Freight Corporation appointed consultants to Iran

The National Freight Corporation and its associates have been appointed consultants to the Iran Government to advise on all matters concerned with the movement, storage and distribution of freight, including cold storage and temperature-controlled distribution.

The agreement, which runs initially for three years was signed during the visit to Iran of a team led by the corporation's chairman, Sir Daniel Pettit.

The NFC has set up an office in Iran. It is embarking on a number of specific freight projects for the Ministry of Commerce and the Ministry of Roads, Communications and Transport and others will follow. The corporation will also be involved in the implementation of agreed recommendations and with the possibility of 'joint ventures' emerging.

Project teams are studying the storage, transport and distribution of cement throughout Iran and cargo handling and ship turn-round at major Iranian ports.

Commenting on the agreement, Sir Daniel Pettit said: 'This is a significant development for the National Freight Corporation. It is the first time we have worked in partnership with an overseas Government in any comprehensive, long-term association. We believe it can be of considerable benefit to us both.'

Colombia: plans for rapid expansion of electricity supply

Detailed information of Colombia's electricity plans is provided in a booklet entitled *La Electrification en Colombia 1973-74* published by the Instituto Colombiano de Energia Electrica.

Present installed electricity capacity in Colombia totals 3,167,000 kW of which 71.1 per cent is hydro-electric power and 28.9 per cent thermo-electric power. Over the period 1981 to 2000 the Colombians have tentative plans for the construction of 21 hydro-electric plants with a total capacity of 25,870,000 kW.

The plans will, if fully carried out, give a total installed capacity of 31,439,000 kW by the year 2000 to meet a demand which is estimated at 25,000,000 kW. In the ten-year period 1974-83, investment in generation, transmission, transformation, and rural electrification and distribution is estimated at US$2,372 million.

Table III of the booklet gives brief details of power plants to be constructed between 1974 and 1981 (fuller details are given in Section III of the publication). Table IV shows the position on plants planned up to the year 2000, while Table VII gives details of transmission lines under study or investigation for future construction.

The booklet (in Spanish only) is held for study in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 57 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 368).

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on 'Iran', 'The United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman', 'Saudi Arabia' and 'The German Democratic Republic' have been published in the 'Hints to Business men' series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets on application to Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05-09, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7 HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146, or to any Regional Office of the Department of Industry.

Egypt's 'currency parallel market'

Copies of the Currency Parallel Market Law, now available, will help to give an understanding of the commercial situation and system in Egypt. It should be noted that the administration of the Parallel Law is constantly under amendment, as is the Law itself. The 'Notes on Trading with the Egypt' have been up-dated to include paragraphs on the Parallel Market and the subject of the private sector undertaking full agency responsibilities. Again, this is subject to constant amendment.

A copy of the Law is available from OTAR, ext. 420/475.

Tariff and Trade Notices

Norway

Ban on advertising of tobacco. From 1 July 1975 the advertising of tobacco and tobacco products will be prohibited in Norway. Special marking regulations will also enter into force on this date. The regulations also prohibit the sale or transfer of any tobacco products or imitations thereof which may encourage persons under 16 years to use such products. British exporters may obtain a copy of Norwegian text of these regulations from OTAR ext. 458/459.

France

Marking of food products. The French *Journal Officiel*, 28 January 1975, published an arreté setting out the regulations governing the marking and labelling of condensed and powdered milk for human consumption. The products should be marked clearly with the letter 'H' which is the code letter for goods manufactured in 1975. Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 423/408/482.

Switzerland

Alcohol monopoly tax. Swiss *Recueil* No. 2 of 20 January 1975 published a number of ordinances revising the monopoly taxes on alcohol and products containing alcohol. The rates of monopoly tax on pharmaceutical products, perfumes, cosmetics and other products containing alcohol or manufactured with alcohol, but not suitable for consumption, remain unchanged. Details of the new rates, which came into force on 10 January 1975, are available from OTAR ext. 460/461.

Spain

Home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 30 January 1975, announced a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy until 22 April 1975 on the following items:

Tariff no.	Description
10.03.B	Barley (other)
10.04.B	Oats (other)
10.05.B	Maize (other)
10.07.B.2	Grain sorghum
10.07.C	Millet

The same *State Gazette* announced temporary concessional rates of home compensation tax levy until 15 March 1975 on the following items:

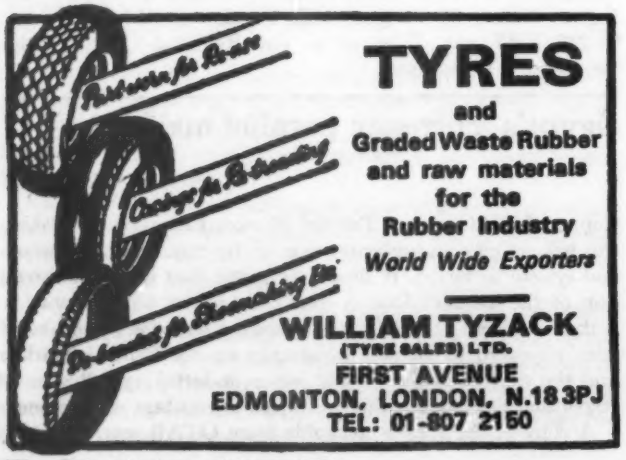
Tariff no.	Description	Home compensation tax levy
12.01.B.3	Soya beans	1.5%
ex 12.02.B	Flours or meals of soya beans	5.5%
ex 23.04.B	Oil cake and other residues of soya beans	5%
15.07.A.2.a.7	Sunflower seed oil, crude	1.5%

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Opening of global quotas. The Spanish global quotas for 1975 were published in *Trade and Industry*, 23 January (page 177). The Spanish authorities have now invited applications from Spanish importers, merchants and industrialists against the following quotas. Applications must be presented within 20 days from 30 January for quota numbers 2, 3, 4, 5; for quota no. 6, applications may be presented any time before 30 October; for quota no. 7, any time during the year, and within 30 days from 30 January for quota nos. 41, 42 and 43.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.



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Quota no.	Tariff no.	Goods	Value of quota (pesetas)
2	16.01 16.02	Meat preserves	62,358,947
3	20.03 20.04 20.05 ex 20.06 20.07.B	Fruit preserves	62,358,947
4	19.04 21.07.B 21.07.D	Miscellaneous food products	12,666,660
5	21.06	Soups and soup preparations	23,384,605
6	22.03	Beer	28,757,119
7	23.01.B	Fish meal	372,984,452
41	84.41.A.1	Sewing machines	4,950,000
42	85.15.A.1 85.15.A.2	Television and radio receivers	29,700,000
43	85.15.B.1 85.15.B.2 85.15.B.3	Radio transmitters and transmitter receivers	64,900,000

The Spanish authorities have also invited applications from Spanish importers, merchants and industrialists against the following quotas for the first half of this year. Applications must be presented within one month from 31 January 1975.

Quota no.	Tariff no.	Goods	Value of quota (pesetas)
16	15.10.C	Industrial fatty alcohols	39,325,000
17	33.06 34.01.B	Perfumery, cosmetics and toilet preparations	19,800,000
18	17.02.A.1 17.02.B.1	Glucose and lactose, chemically pure	39,325,000
19	34.02.B	Surface-active preparations	13,750,000
20	39.01.A	Phenoplasts and furan resins	44,000,000
21	39.01.B	Aminoplasts	29,700,000
22	35.05	Dextrins and dextrin glues; soluble or roasted starches; starch glues	2,750,000
23	36.05 36.06	Pyrotechnic articles and matches	555,000
24	37.04.A 37.05.B	Photographic material	3,025,000
25	39.02.E	PVC	29,700,000
26	39.02.C	Styrne and derivative products (polymerisation)	15,125,000
27	39.02.A.2 39.02.N	Other polymerisation and copolymerisation products	37,400,000
39	61.05 61.07 61.09 61.10.A ex 61.10.D 61.11.A	Other garments and fabric accessories	4,675,000
40	62.01.B.1 62.02.A 62.03 ex 62.04 ex 62.05.B	Other made-up textile articles	4,840,000

The Spanish authorities have invited applications from Spanish importers, merchants and industrialists against the following quotas for the first half of this year. Applications must be presented within one month from 1 February 1975.

Quota no.	Tariff no.	Goods	Value of quota (pesetas)
28	39.07.B	Manufactures of plastic products	44,000,000
29	50.09 50.10	Silk fabrics	30,250,000
30	55.05 55.06	Cotton yarns	13,310,000
31	55.07 55.08 55.09	Cotton fabrics	36,300,000
32	58.04.E 58.08 58.09 60.01.C	Tulle, lace, velvet and knitted goods	16,940,000
33	ex 59.03.A 59.07 59.08 ex 59.11 ex 59.12 ex 59.13 60.06.A.1 60.06.B.1	Special fabrics	15,125,000
34	58.01 58.02 58.03	Carpets and rugs	7,150,000
35	58.05.D 58.07.A.1 58.07.B.1 58.07.C.1 58.07.D.1 59.01 59.02.C	Other textile manufactures	12,650,000
36	ex 59.04.B ex 59.05.C ex 59.06 ex 59.14 ex 59.15 ex 60.02 60.03.A.2 60.03.B.2 60.03.C.1 60.04.C 60.05.C	Knitted fabrics	1,815,000
37	61.01.A ex 61.01.D 61.02.A ex 61.02.D	Outer garments	8,800,000
38	61.03.A ex 61.03.D 61.04.A ex 61.04.D	Under garments	1,650,000

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Newsprint: quota free from home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 30 January 1975, announced an increase over last year to 120,000 metric tons in the quota for newsprint which is exempt from home compensation tax levy; tariff heading 48.01.A.1.

The same *State Gazette* announced a reduction to 1.5 per cent in the home compensation tax levy for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1975 on newsprint imported under the duty-free quota; tariff heading 48.01.A.2. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Greece

Chemicals used in the manufacture of cosmetics. The Greek *Government Gazette* of 16 November 1974, published a list of chemicals whose use is not permitted (either wholly or partly) in the manufacture of cosmetics, and also a list of the colouring materials permitted in the manufacture of such preparations.

Copies of these lists in Greek and French are available (on loan). Inquiries: OTAR ext. 439.

Lebanon

Customs tariff amendments. The Lebanese Government has announced tariff increases on imported cars, parts, accessories and tyres, refrigerators and alcohol, from 6 February 1975.

Duty on cars has been increased by rates varying between 25 per cent and 119 per cent according to cif value, parts and accessories 40 per cent, tyres 127 per cent, refrigerators 40 per cent and alcoholic beverages 50 per cent.

No further information is available at present and another notice will be published when details are received. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 475/420.

Israel

Residue of pesticides in food. The Israeli authorities have issued additional regulations to be inserted after item 26 of the Supplement

Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

to the Public Health (Residue of Pesticides in Food Commodities) Regulations 1970. A list of the pesticides concerned is available on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Standards on domestic electrical apparatus. The Standards Institution of Israel has issued the following standards:

SI 829 Electric cooking ranges, cooking ovens and grills for domestic use.

SI 856 Electric warming plates and enclosures.

These standards have been declared official and compliance with them will become compulsory 60 days from 9 January 1975.

The Standards Institution of Israel issues English translations of these standards and copies may be obtained from British Standards Institution Library, 2 Park Street, London W1 (tel. 01-629 9000, telex 266933). British exporters requiring technical advice on the standards are advised to contact Technical Help to Exporters, British Standards Institution, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HB1 1BR (tel. 0442 3111, telex 82424).

No further details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Iran

Ironware. The Exchange Control Department of the Central Bank of Iran has announced that, until further notice, Iranian importers should not accept the registration of orders for the import of all ironware (cast iron, iron, steel) falling under BN tariff chapter 73. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Chassis trailers. The Iranian authorities have announced that, pending further notice, the registration of orders for the import of chassis trailers (footnote to Iranian tariff BN 87.01) especially designed for cargo loads (similar to truck chassis), do not require the prior approval of the Ministry of Industries and Mines. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Senegal

New customs regulations. Further information concerning new customs regulations in Senegal has recently become available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

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Niger

Gold. The Niger authorities have published a decree on the possession, trading, exporting and importing of gold. The importation of all gold and articles made of gold is now subject to prior authorisation from the Minister of Finance. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 461/471/472/473.

Zambia

Withdrawal of import licences. The Zambian Minister of Commerce announced recently that, to save foreign exchange and restrict import of luxury commodities, all unutilised import licences issued since 1 January 1974 had to be returned to the Ministry of Commerce not later than 10 February 1975 for re-examination. Firms who have already ordered against import licences should forward proof of shipping and/or proof of letters of credit being raised, and the Ministry has stated that sympathetic consideration will be given to these cases, although no decision on individual shipments could be made before the deadline for the return of import licences (ie 10 February 1975).

Although further details are not yet available from the Ministry of Commerce, it is understood that unutilised import licences should have been submitted in two categories.

a Cases where commencement of manufacture against confirmed order could be proved; cases where finance had been arranged or proof of shipping could be furnished;

b those where no orders had been made.

Import licences for category 'a' should be accompanied by original documents only. Priorities will be first, goods already in the country; and second, cases which provide evidence of firm commitment.

Firms with consignments ready for shipment, however, are advised not to ship, but to consult their Zambian customers immediately, and be prepared to supply such original documentation as may be required to prove evidence of a firm commitment before 26 January 1975.

This item was reported briefly in last week's issue. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5794.

Changes in duties and taxes. The Zambian Minister of Finance presented his budget to Parliament on 31 January 1975, and announced the following measures (amongst others):

Increases in the rates on beer, wine, spirits, soft drinks, cigarettes (both local and imported), petrol and diesel fuel. (The increase on

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

petrol will be 4 ng. per litre and for diesel 1 ng. per litre.) The 10 per cent Sales Tax will be extended to a wider product group.

Decreases. The Sales Tax on locally assembled vehicles will be reduced from the 5 per cent-40 per cent range to 5 per cent- 20 per cent. Import duty on CBU vehicles is reduced to a maximum of 100 per cent in a scale of 20 per cent-100 per cent.

Further details in regard to these measures are expected shortly. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473.

Madagascar

Duty exemptions. By decision No. 1229 of 20 December 1974 published in the *Journal Officiel de la République Malagasy*, 4 January 1975, the Minister of Economy and Finance has exempted from import duty the following raw materials used in the local manufacture of soap, cooking oil, candles, confectionery, tobacco, perfumes, condensed milk, jewellery, beer and soft drinks, plastic wares and cement:

15.02	Tallow	76.04	Aluminium foil
28.17	Sodium hydroxide (caustic soda)	48.07	Speciality crated or impregnated paper
15.07, 15.08, 15.12	Coconut (copra) oil, palm oil	24.01	Unmanufactured tobacco
		Ch. 48	Cigarette paper
		24.02	Tobacco extracts and essences
28.45	Sodium silicicates	48.21	Filters
15.10	Fatty acids	49.19	Paper or paperbrand labels
Ch. 33	Perfumes and flavouring essences	Ch. 32	Inks
		Ch. 35	Glues
15.11	Glycerol	17.02	Lactose
28.06	Hydrochloric acid	Ch. 71	Precious metals
28.18	Barium hydroxide	11.07	Malt
28.42	Barium carbonate	12.06	Hops
28.07	Clay	83.18	Crown corks
27.13	Paraffin wax	Ch. 39	Artificial resins and plastic materials
38.11	Wicks		
34.04	Prepared wax	29.01	Toluene
Ch. 11	Flour	73.35	Mattress wire springs
17.02	Glucose	Ch. 55	Woven fabrics
04.02	Whole milk powder	83.13	Metal stoppers, caps and lids
29.05	Menthol	Ch. 73	Steel wire
33.01	Eucalyptol	48.16	Paper bags
04.03	Butter	25.20	Gypsum
39.03	Regenerated cellulose	27.01	Coal

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List No. 655, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 7 February 1975, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase on duty on:

1 Towels and face cloths classifiable under tariff subheading 62.02.65;
2 Paper and paperboard, impregnated, coated, surface-coloured, surface-decorated or printed in rolls or sheets classifiable under tariff subheading 48.07.95;
3 a Printing and writing paper, machine made in rolls or sheets classifiable under tariff subheading 48.01.80.90, and
  b Paper and paperboard, machine made in rolls or sheets classifiable under tariff subheading 48.01.90;
4 Room and motor vehicle air conditioning machines classifiable under tariff heading 84.12.

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Thailand

Man-made fibres: temporary import ban. The Thai Ministry of Foreign Trade has announced a temporary import ban on nylon fibre, stretch nylon thread and polyester fibre from 27 December 1974. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

New Zealand

Tariff amendments. The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Composite) Amendment Orders (Nos. 3 and 4) 1974, which came into force on 13 and 20 December 1974, respectively, amending items in the New Zealand customs tariff. The tariff items are:

15.02.001, 15.02.002, 15.02.009, 15.02.019, 15.03,001, 15.03.009, 28.49.011, 85.19.049, 07.01.309, 07.04.009, 20.02.299, 29.05.003, 71.02.302, 85.01.059

These items now read as follows:

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 15						
Animal and vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal and vegetable waxes						
15.02.000	Fats of bovine cattle, sheep or goats, unrendered; rendered or solvent-extracted fats (including 'premier jus') obtained from those unrendered fats	kg.	1974	Free	Free	
15.03	Lard stearin, oleostearin and tallow stearin; lard oil, oleo-oil and tallow oil, not emulsified or mixed or prepared in any way:					
15.03.002	Oleo-oil	kg.	1974	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
15.03.008	Other	kg.	1974	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 28						
Inorganic chemicals; organic and inorganic compounds of precious metals, of rare earth metals, of radio-active elements and of isotopes						
VI – MISCELLANEOUS						
28.49	Colloidal precious metals; amalgams of precious metals; salts and other compounds, inorganic or organic, of precious metals, including albuminates, proteinates, tannates and similar compounds, whether or not chemically defined:					
	Other:					
	Inorganic:					
28.49.011	Silver nitrate	g.	1974	25%	25%	Aul Free

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No.	Description	Unit	Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
	CHAPTER 85					
	Electrical machinery and equipment; parts thereof					
85.19	Electrical apparatus for making and breaking electrical circuits, for the protection of electrical circuits, or for making connections to or in electrical circuits (for example, switches, relays, fuses, lightning arresters, surge suppressors, plugs, lampholders and junction boxes); resistors, fixed or variable (including potentiometers), other than heating resistors; printed circuits; switchboards (other than telephone switchboards) and control panels:					
	Apparatus for making and breaking electrical circuits (for example, switches and relays):					
	Other apparatus for making and breaking electrical circuits:					
85.19.049	Starters for electric motors		1974	25%	25%	Aul 15% Can 15% CPC 15%
	CHAPTER 7					
	Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers					
07.01	Vegetables, fresh or chilled:					
07.01.305	Mushrooms	kg.	1974	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.01.308	Other		1974	35%	27%	Aul 25%
			1975	35%	29%	Can 25%
			1976	35%	31%	CPC 25%
			1977	35%	35%	
07.04	Dried, dehydrated or evaporated vegetables, whole, cut, sliced, broken or in powder, but not further prepared:					
07.04.005	Mushrooms	kg.	1974	20%‡	20%‡	Aul Free †Can 12½% †CPC 12½%
07.04.008	Other		1974	43%	27%	Aul Free
			1975	41%	29%	Can 25%
			1976	39%	31%	CPC 25%
			1977	35%	35%	

‡ Or the amount by which the cif value is less than $11.00 per kilogram.
† Or 92½% of the amount by which the cif value is less than $11.00 per kilogram.
Where alternative rates are shown the rate chargeable is that which returns the higher duty.

	CHAPTER 20					
	Preparations of vegetables, fruit or other parts of plants					
20.02	Vegetables prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid:					
	Other vegetables:					
	Preserved in airtight containers:					
20.02.239	Mushrooms	kg.	1974	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 12½% CPC 12½%
20.02.289	Other	kg.	1974	43%	27%	Aul 15%
			1975	41%	29%	Can 25%
			1976	39%	31%	CPC 25%
			1977	35%	35%	
	CHAPTER 29					
	Organic chemicals					
	II – ALCOHOLS AND THEIR HALOGENATED, SULPHONATED, NITRATED OR NITROSATED DERIVATIVES					
29.05	Cyclic alcohols and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives:					
29.05.003	Terpineol	kg.	1974	Free	Free	Aul Free
	CHAPTER 71					
	Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, precious metals, rolled precious metals and articles thereof; imitation jewellery					
	I – PEARLS AND PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES					
71.02	Precious and semi-precious stones, unworked, cut or otherwise worked, but not mounted, set or strung (except ungraded stones temporarily strung for convenience of transport):					
	Greenstone, amazonite, bowenite, chloromelanite, jade and nephrite:					
71.02.302	Unworked		1974	Free	Free	Aul Free

No.	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 85						
Electrical machinery and equipment; parts thereof						
85.01	Electrical goods of the following descriptions: generators, motors, convertors (rotary or static), transformers, rectifiers and rectifying apparatus, inductors:					
	Battery chargers:					
85.01.051	Having an output of less than 10 amperes for batteries not exceeding 12 volts	No.	1974	43%	27%	Aul 25%
			1975	41%	29%	Can 25%
			1976	39%	31%	CPC 25%
			1977	35%	35%	
85.01.058	Other	No.	1974	43%	27%	Aul 25%
			1975	41%	29%	Can 25%
			1976	39%	31%	CPC 25%
			1977	35%	35%	

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 401/468/469.

Tariff and Development Board report. Copies of the following New Zealand Tariff and Development Board report are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division:

Greenstone, amazonite, etc. (tariff item 71.02.301).

Ref. CRE 62/74. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

Japan

Domestic electrical appliances. The Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry published in the *Official Gazette*, 12 December 1974, revised regulations for electrical appliances under the Electrical Appliances Control Law. A further notice will be published when details are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Small boat regulations. Further to a notice in *Trade and Industry* of 5 December 1974, copies of an unofficial translation of these regulations are now available on loan to British exporters on request. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Canada

Hearing on vegetable oil products: Reference 154. The Canadian Tariff Board is to make a study and report on tariff item 1305-1 and all matters relating to the vegetable oil industry. The public sitting will be held on Tuesday, 3 June 1975. Briefs or submissions must be filed in writing with the secretary to the board by 4 April. Persons proposing to attend the public sittings should notify the secretary by 16 May 1975. Persons and firms interested in the reference should request the secretary to place their names on the special mailing list for reference 154. Communications should be addressed to the secretary, Tariff Board, Ottawa, Ontario KIA OG7. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5629/5397.

United States

Ingredient labelling for malt beverages. The hearings scheduled for 3 February 1975 on the proposed regulations for the disclosure on the label of malt beverages of all ingredients, have been postponed until 15 April 1975. Submission of written evidence and requests to present oral testimony should be made by 8 April 1975. Details are available. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5397.

CRE tel. Direct dialling **OTAR** telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Bowater 210-litre Mauser Tight-Head plastic drums being filled with Tylosin antibiotic liquid concentrate at the Liverpool plant of Dista Products Ltd. The plastic drums are being used to ship consignments of the veterinary antibiotic concentrate to Dista's parent company, Eli Lilly, at Indianapolis, for further processing. To meet the growing demand within the food, chemical and pharmaceutical industries Bowaters has increased production of Mauser drums. Large capacity containers are now produced at an annual rate of 450,000 following the installation of a new blow-moulding machine, and the company is to commission a further machine this year to increase production to 700,000 drums a year.

International Trade Commission: public hearings on impact of future international trade agreements. The International Trade Commission has announced that it will hold public hearings as follows:

Cities	Dates (1975)	Cities	Dates (1975)
Washington, DC	25-27 February	Boston, Mass	3-4 April
New Orleans, La	4-5 March	Chicago, Ill	8-9 April
Atlanta, Ga	6-7 March	Cleveland, Ohio	10-11 April
Phoenix, Ariz	11-12 March	Denver, Colo	14-15 April
San Francisco, Calif	13-14 March	Omaha, Nebr	16-17 April
Minneapolis, Minn	18-19 March	Kansas City, Mo	18-19 April
Portland, Oreg	20-21 March	Washington, DC	8 April – until completed
New York, NY	1-2 April		

Requests to appear at the public hearings should be filed in writing with the secretary of the Commission at least two weeks before the commencing date of the hearing in the city at which the appearance is to be made.

The International Trade Commission is required to give its views to the President on or before 14 July 1975.

All communications regarding the Commission's investigation should be addressed to the Secretary, United States International Trade Commission, Washington, DC 20436.

The Port of Liverpool received its first major export consignment of British Leyland's latest sports car, the TR7, recently. The TR7s were loaded at S3 roll-on/roll-off berth at the Royal Seaforth Dock, Liverpool, on the Atlantic Container Line's vessel *Atlantic Conveyor* for shipment to the east coast of North America. The TR7 is manufactured on Merseyside at British Leyland's Speke factory. Picture shows TR7s in the vehicle export car park prior to loading at S3 berth.

Jamaica

Import licensing. The Jamaican authorities by Notices 2924 and 2925 of 1974 have reminded importers that where imported goods are subject to specific licensing, the quantity and the cif value of the goods shipped shall not exceed the amounts authorised by related import licences. Penalties may also be imposed if goods are imported without the importers first obtaining a licence. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Trinidad and Tobago

Purchase tax. The Trinidad and Tobago authorities by GN No. 6 of 31 December 1974 have revised the Purchase Tax Schedule.

Goods under the following BTN headings are exempt from Purchase Tax. BN ex 33.06, ex 37.03, ex 40.01, ex 42.03.10, ex 43.10, ex 44.01, ex 48.01.02, ex 60.01 to 12 inclusive, ex 61.01 to 12 inclusive, ex 64.01, ex 65.01, ex 84.07, ex 96.01.

Purchase Tax on domestic stoves and ranges is 25 per cent. Spare parts for same, 15 per cent. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Colombia

Tariff amendments. Colombian decrees 2133 and 2172 modify the duties on a number of items. Part of or all of the following tariff numbers are affected:

28.20	28.38	28.46	29.15	35.04	38.08	38.16	39.03	39.07	48.01
62.03	73.03	73.07	73.10	73.15	73.27	74.11	76.01	79.01	84.18
87.04									

British exporters with inquiries should specify the products in which they are interested. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Venezuela

Margarita Island established as a Free Port. A recent Venezuelan government decree has established the Island of Margarita as a Free Port (previously a Free Zone). The regulation will enter into force on 1 April 1975. An unofficial translation of the regulations is available to British exporters. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Chile

Revised exchange rates. The Chilean Central Bank has announced the following revised exchange rates effective from 28 January 1975.

a The 'Bank' rate raised from 1,870 escudos to 2,150 escudos per US dollar;

b The 'Brokers' rate raised from 2,000 escudos to 2,350 escudos per US dollar.

Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5289.

Argentina

Suspension of documentary credits for import of some live animals. On 2 January 1975 the Central Bank announced that until further notice, no documentary credits or other banking measures may be opened for the importation of products under the following tariff headings:

01.01.00.00	01.02.00.00	01.03.00.00	01.04.00.00	01.05.00.00

No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

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European Community

Temporary suspension of the Common Customs Tariff of the EEC

Further to the notice appearing in the issue of *Trade and Industry* of 30 January, the Department of Trade has now received details of additional proposals for new suspensions of the Common Customs Tariff. These proposals are set out below.

As in the case of the earlier lists of proposals for new suspensions of the Common Customs Tariff, the Department will want to take account of United Kingdom interests in making its views known to the Community of Nine before decisions are taken as to whether these proposed suspensions should be granted. United Kingdom producers are entitled to object to the granting of any of these proposed suspensions where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the Community of Nine and that their interests might be affected adversely by the loss or reduction of Community preference on exports to the original Community of Six, or reduced tariff protection in the United Kingdom, which a suspension of the CCT would entail.

United Kingdom producers who wish to object to the granting of a proposed suspension of the Common Customs Tariff should provide as much as possible of the following information:

i estimated Community (Nine countries including the UK) demand in 1975 and 1976;

ii estimated UK demand in 1975 and 1976;

iii UK production expected to be available for:

- a the UK market in 1975 and 1976;
- b the rest of the Community in 1975 and 1976;
- c exports to other countries for the same years.

This information should be sent in writing to the Department of Trade, Tariff Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, not later than 20 February 1975 (tel. 01-215 3576).

Tariff heading	Description	Proposed CCT suspended rate of duty	Applicant State
03.01 BIq	Seawater ornamental fish, live	Free	Germany
06.04 BI	Natural Christmas trees unfit for replanting: cut branches of coniferous trees or ilex for ornamental purposes	Free	Denmark

EEC information for businessmen: new free booklet

'EEC – Your Questions Answered', a new 80 page booklet published by the EEC Information Unit, contains answers to businessmen's inquiries on a wide range of EEC subjects. These include trade with EFTA and other countries associated with the Community, customs procedures and documentation, tariffs, market information and non-tariff barriers to trade. Some of these questions and answers have already appeared in *European Community Commentary* and have been updated where necessary; others have not previously been published.

The booklet also contains background information about how the Community works as well as a list of countries with association or trade arrangements with the EEC, a glossary of more commonly used initials and abbreviations, public holidays in EEC and EFTA countries in 1975, a check list of draft and adopted directives on technical standards, lists of publications, useful addresses and contacts both in Europe and the UK.

Copies are available, free of charge, from the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4301 (6 lines).

Process inwards relief

The conditions relating to the grant of process inwards relief as described in Notices No. 221 and 221A issued by HM Customs and Excise have been varied as a consequence of EEC Regulation No. 1515/74. The changes mainly relate to transit documents and compensatory levy considerations and are effective forthwith.

The Regulation was introduced to harmonise the process inwards relief arrangements between the Member States of the Community. It allows, for the remainder of the transi-

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Fees are based on time costs and disbursements. (Assistance with overseas research costs is sometimes available to UK organisations).
For an initial discussion please contact Peter Douglas, MIPR.

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Customs notices of interest to exporters

The following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from the local Officer of Customs and Excise, whose address appears in the telephone directory and to whom all inquiries should be addressed, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

7	Drawback on mixed or blended beers when exported or deposited in bonded warehouse.
17 (May 1973)	Arrangements for preferential trade between the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom.
49	Temporary importations: international co-operation.
104	Temporary importations and exportations under ATA and ECS Carnets.
112	Authorised hours for Customs work at ports, airports and in long rooms and charges for attendance given at the request of merchants.
112A	Charges for attendance given at private premises at the request of merchants.
118	Samples imported for promoting export trade.
132A	Sugar: cessation of Import Duties and Imposition of Levies under the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC and the Sugar Board Charge.
172	Hydrocarbon Oils: drawback of duty.
207	Re-imported goods: relief from Customs duty and Value Added Tax.
210	Temporary importation of films and similar goods for copying, printing, etc., to fulfil export orders.
221	Process Inwards Relief and Pre-financing of export refunds on products for process.
221A	Section 7 relief: changes in procedure.
223	Export relief on goods exported in the same state as at import ('Same state section 7 relief').
224	The examination of bottled beer, exported on drawback, at the premises of a licensed brewer for sale, or beer dealer, as an alternative to examination on the quay.
241	European Economic Community: Compensatory, Levy and Addendum thereto.
275	Documentation of Exports for Statistical Purposes.
290	Export of personal and household effects.
291	Claims for drawback on goods exported where there has been a variation in the duty rate.
300	Export reliefs scheduling scheme.
703	VAT – Exports. (Revised November 1973)
704	VAT – Retail Export Schemes. (Revised November 1973)
705	VAT – Tax free sales of motor vehicles to tourists, etc.
750	Community transit – general.
750A	Community transit – list of Offices of Departure, Transit and Destination and Guarantee Offices in the United Kingdom, etc.
750B	Extension of the Community Transit procedures to Austria and Switzerland.
751	Notes on completing Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3.
752	Free circulation of goods in the European Communities.
753	Community transit – the simplified procedure for goods carried by rail.
754	Documentation for fish caught by British fishing vessels.
755	Community transit – special control procedures.
756	Instructions on the use of loading lists as descriptive parts of forms T1, T2 or T3.
774	Hydrocarbon Oils Customs Duties: Additions of *Ad Valorem* Protective Element.
800	EEC Common Agricultural Policy: Customs procedures in respect of export refunds and export licences.
810	EEC Preferences – Free Trade Agreement between the EEC and EFTA countries.
810A	EEC Preferences – EFTA countries. Simplification of the documentation system described in Notice 810. Introduction of universal form of movement certificate EUR 1.
812, 812A	EEC Preferences – Turkey.
817 (June 1973)	EEC Preferences – Tunisia.
818 (June 1973)	EEC Preferences – Egypt.
819 (May 1973)	EEC Preferences – Cyprus.
821	EEC Preferences – simplified procedure for sending evidence to EEC customers about the origin of goods.
830	Arrangements between Denmark and United Kingdom.

tional period, process inwards relief to be completed when the compensating products are

a exported to another Member State on payment of compensatory levy; or

b put into free circulation in the Member State of manufacture.

Formerly exporters could obtain export relief on the non-Community products used in the manufacture of goods for export by placing them under the external Community Transit (Form T.1.) procedure. This option is now withdrawn.

In future, to meet the requirements for process inwards relief, goods which are delivered to another Member State for home use must be covered by a valid Community Transit Form T.3. or equivalent documentation. Consequently either compensatory levy or the duty chargeable on the non-Community country ingredients must be paid in the United Kingdom.

Another change arising from the Regulation relates to compensating products discharged from process inwards by the issue of Form T.1., on their being destined for a non-Community country. Where these are subsequently diverted to home use in another Member State then payment of import duty or compensatory levy on non-Community ingredients is required in the Member State of manufacture. This qualifies the compensating products for the issue of a Form T3L and admission to the other Community country at the intra-Community rate of duty.

Customs and Excise have issued Notice 221B 'EEC: Section 7 Relief, Transitional period arrangements, supplementary procedural changes'. This Notice may be obtained from the local office of Customs and Excise or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE. A revised Notice 241 (EEC: Compensatory Levy) will be published shortly.

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference points given at the end of the item.

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations and Decision which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 174/75 extending the period of validity of the guide prices for calves and adult bovine animals. This replaces the date '31 January 1975' in the second paragraph of Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) 667/74 (published in *Official Journal* L85, 29 March 1974) by '2 March 1975'. (*Official Journal* L20, 25 January 1975)

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 175/75 on special intervention measures for sugar. (*Official Journal* L20, 25 January 1975)

Regulation (EEC) 191/75 concerning an additional quantity in respect of the subsidised importation of sugar and amending Regulation (EEC) 2931/74 which introduces a subsidy on imports of white and raw sugar. (*Official Journal* L20, 25 January 1975)

Products of the flower growing industry. Regulation (EEC) 184/75 amending Regulation (EEC) 315/68 (published in *Official Journal* L21, 21 March 1968) as regards the packaging and presentation of narcissus bulbs. (*Official Journal* L20, 25 January 1975)

Animal health. Decision 75/64/EEC amending Decision 73/70/EEC (published in *Official Journal* L77, 26 March 1973) authorising Germany to apply special health guarantees for the prevention of leucosis in the case of bovine animals imported for breeding or production. (*Official Journal* L21, 28 January 1975)

IMPORTS FROM EEC MEMBER STATES AND NON-MEMBER STATES: The texts of the following Decisions have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L23, 30 January 1975.

Decision 75/71/EEC authorising Germany not to apply Community treatment to preparations and preserves of beans in pod, falling within subheading 20.02 ex G of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the People's Republic of China, and in free circulation in the other Member States.

Decision 75/72/EEC authorising France not to apply Community treatment to toys of wood and other (except motors and movement mechanisms for toys and working models used for recreational purposes, and parts thereof), falling within subheadings 97.03 A and 97.03 ex B of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Japan, and in free circulation in the other Member States.

Decision 75/70/EEC authorising France to apply protective measures in trade within the Community in wines, falling within subheading 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff, coming from Greece.

Decision 75/69/EEC authorising Italy to apply protective measures in trade within the Community in wines, falling within subheading 22.05 C of the Common Customs Tariff, coming from Greece.

HARMONISATION OF LEGISLATION: Alcoholometers and hydrometers. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C11, 16 January 1975, contains the draft text of a proposal for a Directive on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States concerning alcoholometers and hydrometers for alcohol and alcohol tables.

It should be noted that the text of this Directive when finally approved may differ from the draft text referred to above.

Further information: Department of Industry, Standard Weights and Measures Division, Branch 3, 26 Chapter Street, London SW1P 4NS, tel. 01-834 7032, ext. 44.

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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,404	9 223	2,130	2,089	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	257	324	68	−23	685	−9	694
1971	101	103	100	94	102	−7	−128	52	−4	1,050	285	765
1972	104	109	103	85	115	−39	205	48	3	72	−677	749
1973	109	114	108	90	121	674	374	32	242	−1,198	−2,355	1,157
1974										−3,731	−5,190	1,459
1972 1st qtr.	101	108	103	90	107	−36	−62	17	−16	84	−121	205
2nd qtr.	104	108	103	84	115	−27	−106	1	38	121	−64	185
3rd qtr.	104	110	102	82	115	−13	−42	6	−13	−114	−284	170
4th qtr.	106	111	105	83	123	−37	7	24	−6	−19	−208	189
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	111	89	126	257	146	11	32	−192	−351	159
2nd qtr.	109	112	104	86	112	202	61	−9	163	−197	−399	202
3rd qtr.	110	114	109	91	120	94	68	6	22	−272	−602	330
4th qtr.	110	114	109	94	124	121	99	24	25	−537	−1,003	466
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	111	99	111	−261	−100	8	−73	−1,003	−1,318	315
2nd qtr.	109	112	103	99	107	227	138	42	11	−996	−1,369	373
3rd qtr.	111	114	103	99	115	179	216	−30	−28	−785	−1,166	381
4th qtr.										−946p	−1,336p	390p
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.9	−0.8	−6.7	+2.4	−5.9							
on a year earlier	+0.5	−0.2	−3.6	+11.5	−4.6							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices		Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages	Index‡	% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used‡	manufactured products: home sales‡		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	monthly averages	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		16 Jan. 1962		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	733	709
1972	102.4	102.0	105.8	138.6	164.3	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	818	3.6	145	761	818
1973	109.9	110.5	110.7	137.3	179.4	9.2	144.4	123.2*	115.5	581	2.6	304	955	1,151
1974				102.7	108.5†	16.0	240.2	151.9	138.2				1,288	1,721
1973 1st qtr.	109.9	109.9	111.8	152	172.4	8.0	126.0	119.5	108.9	667	2.9	228	878	995
2nd qtr.	109.6	110.1	108.3	136	177.9	9.3	133.3	120.1*	113.7	605	2.6	289	931	1,064
3rd qtr.	110.7	111.4	110.6	143	180.2	9.2	150.8	124.2	118.5	562	2.5	334	996	1,197
4th qtr.	109.4	110.4	112.0	119	186.8	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	489	2.2	364	1,013	1,384
1974 1st qtr.	103.4	105.5	109.9	103	101.4†	12.9	212.5	138.4	125.0	543	2.4	285	1,133	1,572
2nd qtr.	107.8	109.3	107.5	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.2	552	2.4	309	1,300	1,767
3rd qtr.	109.0	110.6	111.1	109	110.2	17.0	213.0	156.1	143.7	600	2.7	306	1,387	1,776
4th qtr.			112.0 p	96	115.1	18.2	221.8 p	164.7 p	152.9	**	**	**	1,333	1,778
1973 Dec.	108.2	107.0	112.6	103	188.2	10.6	175.1	130.6	122.0	470	2.1	362	1,025	1,354
1974 Jan.	101.2	102.3	109.2	93	191.8	12.0	209.5	134.1	123.7	535	2.4	304	1,023	1,395
Feb.	103.1	106.6	110.2	109	101.7†	13.2	213.1	138.5	124.7	549	2.4	278	1,164	1,616
Mar.	105.7	107.0	110.1	106	102.6	13.5	215.0	142.2	126.5	545	2.4	274	1,221	1,705
Apr.	107.3	109.0	108.1	97	106.1	15.2	215.4	146.3	127.9	546	2.4	297	1,273	1,667
May	107.5	108.6	105.8	105	107.6	15.9	214.0	148.9	132.0	548	2.4	314	1,291	1,774
June	108.6	110.4	108.3	111	108.7	16.5	211.7	151.1	136.8	561	2.5	317	1,337	1,829
July	109.5	111.0	109.3	106	109.7	17.1	212.3	153.5	139.7	582	2.6	317	1,336	1,810
Aug.	109.4	111.4	111.5	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.4	606	2.7	298	1,387	1,708
Sept.	108.1	109.4	112.3	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.2	612	2.7	303	1,438	1,809
Oct.	108.0	108.5	111.6	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.3	607	2.7	297	1,340	1,770
Nov.	107.5	108.7	112.6	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.7	153.4	608	2.7	276	1,293	1,822
Dec.			111‡.p	87	116.9	19.1	222.5 p	167.2 p	156.9	**		**	1,366 p	1,743 p
1975 Jan.				108			221.7 p	172.0 p		675e	3.0	**		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−1.2	−1.9	+2.5	−9.0	+4.5		+3.3	+5.7	+6.3	+7.9		−5.3	−4	−
on a year earlier	−2.8	−2.7	+0.9	−9.0	+18.2		+21.3	+28.0	+26.2	+12.9		−13.8	+31.5	+32

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1974 = 100.
** Figures not available.

Employment on scientific research and development in British industry

Introduction

This article presents provisional estimates of employment on research and development in British industry at the end of December 1972. The information was collected as part of the survey of industrial expenditure on scientific research and development in 1972, of which the summary results were published in *Trade and Industry* of 5 September 1974. That article indicated that 1972 figures are provisional and may be subject to amendment in the future, which applies equally to the employment figures. A second part of this article covers changes in employment on research and development from 1967 to 1972. Information on manpower employed on scientific research and development has been collected as part of the surveys of industrial research and development since 1967 but whereas from the start private industry provided information sub-divided by product group this sub-division was not requested from public corporations or research associations until 1972. Notes are given at the end of the article.

Whereas the estimates of expenditure on industrial research and development show an increase of 20 per cent* between 1969 and 1972, it is estimated that the numbers engaged on scientific research and development fell from 212,000 at the end of 1969 to 182,000 employees at the end of 1972, a drop of 14 per cent. This fall came after two years of relatively small falls in employment, between the end of 1967 and the end of 1969 the numbers employed fell by only 3 per cent.

Employment on research and development 1972

It is estimated that there were 182,000 people employed on R & D in British industry at the end of 1972; the figures are summarised in Table A below. Private industry accounted for nearly 90 per cent of the total employment, public corporations (including the British Steel Corporation) for 7 per cent and research associations for the remaining 3 per cent. These estimates include an allowance for non-response amounting to 6 per cent of the total employed in private industry or some 5 per cent of the grand total of R & D employees.

TABLE A Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1972 As at 31 December

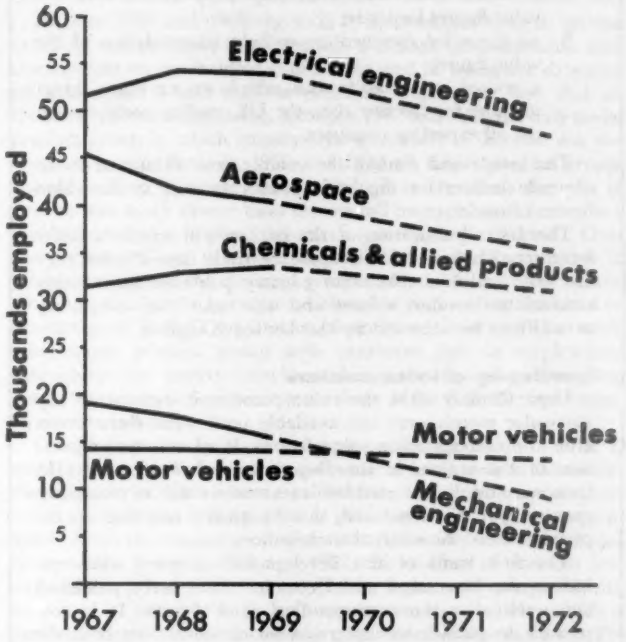
	All industry	Private industry	Public corporations	Research associations
NUMBERS (thousands)				
All R & D employees	182	163	14	6
Scientists and engineers	61	52	6	2
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	64	59	4	2
Administrative and clerical	25	22	2	1
Other (including industrial staff)	33	31	1	1
PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL EMPLOYEES				
All R & D employees	100	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	33	32	47	41
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	35	36	29	29
Administrative and clerical	14	13	13	20
Others (including industrial staff)	18	19	11	10

The distribution of R & D employment between the various product groups is shown in detail in Appendix Table 1. The information on R & D expenditure published in *Trade and Industry* of 5 September 1974 has been expressed in percentages so that a direct comparison can be made between the distribution of employment and of R & D expenditure for the same product groups. The distribution of expenditure and of employment were very similar for all product groups. The most notable differences were in aerospace which accounted for 25 per cent of R & D expenditure but only 19 per cent of employment and in electrical engineering which accounted for 26 per cent of R & D expenditure but 29 per cent of employment.

The explanation for these differences does not lie in differences in remuneration per head. The distribution of the salary and wage bills when compared with that of employment was identical to the nearest percentage at least. It can be expected that the distribution of the salary and wage bills over product groups will be very close to the distribution of employment, unless there are major differences in remuneration per head between the product groups. For the main groups of products, the implied figures of remuneration per head which are of some interest in themselves, are summarised to the nearest £100 per annum in text Table B. In fact, for all product groups the average remuneration for those employed on R & D was £2,300 per annum in 1972; the figure for aerospace was £2,300 and for electrical engineering was £2,200. The range of variation between product groups was fairly small. In private industry the average level

EMPLOYMENT ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT 1967–1972

Selected product groups, in private industry



* The figures for the years from 1966 to 1969 have been revised since the publication of the article on 5 September 1974. Further details are available in the notes at the end of the article.

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Revised presentation of monthly overseas trade figures

Beginning with the January figures, due to be published in next week's *Trade and Industry* the form of the monthly article on the Current Account of the United Kingdom Balance of Payments is to be substantially revised to provide:

a simultaneous publication of the volume, unit value and terms of trade indices for the latest month with the value figures for trade;

b an expanded commentary to help interpretation of the value figures;

c a revised area classification which among other things includes for the first time the UK trading position with the oil exporting countries.

The article will contain the volume, unit value and terms of trade indices for the latest month as well as the value figures of trade.

The faster publication of the indices will enable a fuller interpretation to be placed upon the trade figures when they are first published. No other country publishes its monthly external trade value, volume and unit value data as quickly as will now be achieved by the United Kingdom.

Speeding up of index numbers

Until October 1974 the volume and unit indices for any particular month were not available until some three weeks after the corresponding value figures. Work on the preparation of the indices in the Department of Trade and HM Customs and Excise enabled an extensive use of computer processing to be introduced, thereby greatly speeding up the preparation of the external trade indices.

The first fruits of this development occurred when the indices for November and December 1974 were published one week after the corresponding value figures. It is now possible to publish an integrated article containing both the index numbers and the value data.

The incorporation of the index numbers provides the main change to the form of the notice. Additional tables will give volume and unit value indices for total trade and an analysis by main commodity groups. In terms of commodity detail these extra tables will correspond as far as possible with tables containing the value figures.

The commentary will be expanded to use the newly available information to help in the interpretation of the value figures.

Other changes are also being made. The most important of these is the introduction of a new area analysis of trade based upon the one used by the United Nations in its statistical work: it divides the world into developed, developing and centrally planned economies.

The 'developed countries' group will be sub-divided between 'EEC', 'Rest of W. Europe', 'North America' and 'Other' while the 'developing countries' group will show the 'oil exporting countries' (using the definition adopted by the International Monetary Fund) separately.

Three other changes are also being made to the tables.

First, the more technical tables giving the derivation of exports and imports on a Balance of Payments basis from the recorded trade figures will be dropped from the press notice: the information will be included in the article which appears in *Trade and Industry* after publication of the press notice.

Second, the value figures in the tables will no longer be monthly averages but will be the seasonally adjusted totals for the period (month, quarter or year) to which they refer. This will make the tables more suitable for reference purposes.

Third, the tables will include the percentage changes for the latest three months compared with the previous three months.

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	# fifty-three week period

of remuneration was above the average for all product groups, for the products of the chemical industry and for motor vehicles. In public corporations the remuneration was generally higher than in private industry (perhaps reflecting the higher percentage of scientists and engineers), but in the research associations it was generally lower. It needs to be remembered that these figures reflect differences in the composition of employment and that they are approximate in that the total payments for wages and salaries in 1972 are being divided by employment as at 31 December 1972 (see Table B).

TABLE B Salaries and wages per head of employment on research and development, 1972 Selected product groups

£ per annum (1)

	All industry	Private industry	Public corporations	Research associations
All product groups	2,300	2,300	2,600	2,000
Coal, chemical and allied products	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,000
Mechanical engineering	2,200	2,200	2,400	2,000
Electrical engineering (including electronics)	2,200	2,100	2,800	2,300
Motor vehicles	2,600	2,700	2,400	2,000
Aerospace	2,300	2,300	3,400*	2,000*

(1) Figures have been rounded to the nearest £100.
* Based on less than 50 employees.

The explanation for the differing importance of aerospace according to employment on the one hand and expenditure on the other hand, lies in the composition of expenditure on R & D. In nearly every product group, salaries and wages formed the largest single component of total R & D expenditure and overall it accounted for 50 per cent of total expenditure, but for aerospace products the salary and wage bill accounted for only 39 per cent of the expenditure on R & D in 1972. Offsetting this in aerospace, 38 per cent of total R & D expenditure was on materials and equipment compared with the average of 20 per cent overall. As explained in an earlier article (*Trade and Industry*, 2 May 1974), much of the R & D expenditure in aerospace is for prototype aircraft and engines.

Within the total employed, scientists and engineers were slightly less numerous than the total of technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen, but each group comprised close to a third of the total employment, leaving another third consisting of administrative and clerical staff (14 per cent) and other employees, including industrial staff (18 per cent). For private industry the distribution of employees was much the same as for all industry since private industry accounts for 90 per cent of total R & D employment. Public corporations however, employed a higher proportion of scientists and engineers than private industry – nearly a half compared with a third. The proportion of scientists and engineers employed by research associations was between the two. The distinctions should be treated as only approximate because the distinction between the first two occupational groups is not entirely clear-cut and there is some evidence to suggest that the categories may have been interpreted in different ways. Also, it needs to be remembered that this classification into a limited number of occupational groups is not by qualification and qualified people with scientific degrees or equivalent are included in each group.

The distribution of occupations within each product group is shown in Appendix Table 2 and a summary for selected product groups covering 80 per cent of R & D employees is given in text Table C. According to the text table, the proportion of scientists and engineers ranged from 39 per cent in electrical engineering (including electronics) to 23 per cent in motor vehicles, compared with the overall average of 33 per cent. In the main group of products associated with chemicals the proportion of technicians and laboratory assistants was particularly high. The proportion of 'other' employees including industrial staff engaged on R & D work was well above average in aerospace, due to the need to build prototype aircraft and engines. A similar situation was found in motor vehicles. In mechanical engineering the occupational distribution was close to the average for all product groups.

TABLE C Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1972
Selected product groups

As at 31 December

	All product groups	Coal, chemical and allied products	Mechanical engineering	Electrical engineering (including electronics)	Motor vehicles	Aerospace
NUMBERS (thousands)						
All R & D employees	182	32	13	52	13	35
Scientists and engineers	61	10	4	20	3	10
Technicians, laboratory assistants etc.	64	13	5	18	4	10
Administrative and clerical	25	4	2	7	2	5
Others (including industrial staff)	33	5	2	7	4	10
PERCENTAGES						
All R & D employees	100	100	100	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	33	32	34	39	23	29
Technicians, laboratory assistants etc.	35	42	35	35	30	29
Administrative and clerical	14	12	14	13	16	14
Others (including industrial staff)	18	14	17	13	30	27

Changes in employment

Between the end of 1967 and the end of 1972 the number engaged on scientific research and development in industry fell from 219,000 to 182,000. Table D below compares the manpower and the intramural R & D expenditure over the same period (that is, the part of expenditure associated with the employment of staff on R & D). It can be seen that the fastest increase in expenditure at current prices occurred between 1969 and 1972, and the fastest fall in employment occurred at the same time. In private industry expenditure rose by 19 per cent between 1969 and 1972, whilst employment fell by 16 per cent. Most of the differences between these percentages is thought to be due to an increase in costs. Between 1969 and 1972 the index of home costs, which provides a general measure of price changes, increased by nearly 30 per cent.

TABLE D Employment and expenditure on research and development
Sector changes from 1967 to 1972

	1967	1968	1969	1972
INTRA-MURAL EXPENDITURE ON R & D				
£ million at current prices				
All industry	605	639	683	827
Private industry (1)	550	583	622	739
Public corporations	42	41	45	69
Research associations	13	14	16	19
Index 1967 = 100				
All industry	100	106	113	137
Private industry (1)	100	106	113	134
Public corporations	100	99	108	166
Research associations	100	112	127	145
EMPLOYMENT ON R & D (as at 31 December)				
Thousands				
All industry	219	216	212	182
Private industry	198	197	193	163
Public corporations	15	13	13	14
Research associations	6	6	6	6
Index 1967 = 100				
All industry	100	99	97	83
Private industry	100	99	97	82
Public corporations	100	87	88	94
Research associations	100	104	104	91

(1) Revised – see further details in notes at the end of the article.

From 1967 onwards private industry provided information on employment sub-divided by product group but similar detail was not requested from public corporations and research associations until 1972 as indicated in the introduction. It follows that any detailed study of changes over time has to be limited to private industry. Comparisons over time must also be limited to groupings of products which are comparable over a fair period of time. The available detail is presented in Appendix Table 3, to the nearest thousand employees. Text table E summarises the changes in employment in index number form for the main groupings of products which account for four-fifths of R & D employment and the chart presents the numbers involved.

TABLE E Changes in employment in research and development 1967 to 1972
Selected product groups in private industry

As at 31 December

	1967	1968	1969	1972
Index numbers 1967 = 100				
All product groups	100	99	97	82
Coal, chemical and allied products	100	104	106	98
Mechanical engineering	100	93	80	49
Electrical engineering (including electronics)	100	105	104	92
Motor vehicles	100	101	100	93
Aerospace	100	92	90	78

Between 1967 and 1968 the total R & D employment in private industry changed little but there was a change in distribution with employment on mechanical engineering and in aerospace dropping off substantially, and that on electrical engineering and that on chemical products increasing. Between 1968 and 1969 the only major product group in which employment continued to increase was the chemical group. Between 1969 and 1972 all major product groups showed a drop in employment, although in chemicals the rate of decline was much slower than the overall average, and there was a continued increase in pharmaceuticals (see Appendix Table 3). Over the period 1967 to 1972 the proportion of R & D employees in private industry in the chemical group increased from 16 per cent to 19 per cent. Over the same period electrical engineering increased its percentage of R & D employment from 26 per cent to 29 per cent. The major product group with consistent falls in employment throughout the period – mechanical engineering – showed a drop from 10 per cent to 6 per cent in its share of the R & D employment by private industry.

Considering changes in the occupational composition of R & D employment, it is unfortunately necessary to lose a year in this rather short time series. This is because the detailed information on employment in 1967 was collected on a different basis from subsequent years. From the summary of information shown in text tables it can be seen that between 1968 and 1972, the number of scientists and engineers in private industry dropped by 8 per cent, compared with a drop of 17 per cent in R & D employment as a whole; which is further reflected in the increasing proportion of this category. For public corporations and research associations the numbers are much smaller and no appreciable changes in the pattern of employment are discernible; rather it is noticable that there was a greater percentage of scientists employed and a smaller percentage of technicians and laboratory and other supporting staff than in private industry in all years.

TABLE F Occupational groupings of employment on research and development
Sector changes from 1968 to 1972

As at 31 December

	All industry			Private industry			Public corporations			Research associations		
	68	69	72	68	69	72	68	69	72	68	69	72
NUMBERS (thousands)												
Total	216	212	182	197	193	163	13	13	14	6	6	6
Scientists and engineers	65	67	61	57	59	52	6	6	6	2	3	2
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	78	72	64	73	67	59	3	4	4	2	2	2
Administrative and clerical	32	32	25	29	29	22	2	2	2	2	1	1
Other (including industrial staff)	41	41	33	39	39	31	1	1	1	1	1	1
PERCENTAGES												
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	30	32	33	29	31	32	48	46	47	38	40	41
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	36	34	35	37	35	36	27	29	29	27	29	29
Administrative and clerical	15	15	14	14	15	13	13	14	13	26	21	20
Other (including industrial staff)	19	19	18	20	20	19	12	11	11	10	11	10

When employment estimates are subdivided simultaneously by sector, by occupational group and by product group, as in Appendix Table 2, the numbers in many of the cells are small. The appendix table relates only to 1972, and in order to consider the proportions in occupational groups based on larger numbers the product groups of private industry have been amalgamated into the major product

groupings, in text Table G. Time comparisons in this detail are only possible for private industry, it will be recalled. The table shows that some of the main features in the composition of employment shown in Table B and discussed above were evident also in the earlier years. In all years the proportion of those employed who were scientists and engineers was relatively low and the proportion of supporting staff relatively high in motor vehicles and in aerospace for the reasons previously given. However, since 1968 there has been a shift in electrical engineering (including electronics) from supporting staff towards a higher proportion of scientists and engineers.

TABLE G Occupational grouping of employment on research and development 1968 to 1972 Selected product groups in private industry

As at 31 December

	Numbers (thousands)			Percentages of total R & D employees		
	1968	1969	1972	1968	1969	1972
A. ALL PRODUCT GROUPS						
Total R & D employees	197	193	163	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	57	59	52	29	31	32
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	73	67	59	37	35	36
Administrative and clerical	29	29	22	14	15	13
Other (including industrial staff)	39	39	31	20	20	19
B. COAL, CHEMICAL AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Total R & D employees	33	33	31	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	11	12	10	33	35	31
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	13	12	13	39	37	43
Administrative and clerical	4	4	4	12	11	12
Other (including industrial staff)	5	6	4	17	17	14
C. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING						
Total R & D employees	18	15	9	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	5	3	3	28	23	29
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	8	7	4	43	43	40
Administrative and clerical	3	2	1	14	15	14
Other (including industrial staff)	3	3	2	17	19	17
D. ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (including electronics)						
Total R & D employees	54	54	47	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	15	18	18	28	34	37
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	20	18	17	37	33	35
Administrative and clerical	9	9	6	17	17	13
Other (including industrial staff)	10	9	7	18	17	14
E. MOTOR VEHICLES						
Total R & D employees	14	14	13	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	4	4	3	25	25	23
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	5	5	4	34	34	30
Administrative and clerical	3	3	2	20	18	17
Others (including industrial staff)	3	3	4	21	23	30
F. AEROSPACE						
Total R & D employees	42	41	35	100	100	100
Scientists and engineers	12	11	10	28	28	29
Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen	12	11	10	29	28	29
Administrative and clerical	5	6	5	13	14	14
Other (including industrial staff)	13	12	10	30	30	27

Definitions and notes

Data on research and development employment were collected on the same questionnaire as information on R & D expenditure. Industry was asked to include all persons employed at the end of December who spent more than half of the working week on research and development activities as defined below:

a Basic or fundamental research. Work undertaken primarily for the advancement of scientific knowledge without specific practical application in view.

b Applied research. Research undertaken with either a general or a particular application in view.

c Development. The use of results of basic and applied research directed to the introduction of useful materials, processes, products, devices and systems or the improvement of existing ones.

Industry is defined as consisting of three sectors, private industry, public corporations and research associations.

The survey was made of all enterprises in private industry employing over 100 employees in 1972 and reporting expenditure on research and development as the result of a preliminary inquiry. In 1972 the information on R & D employment was processed in the same way as the expenditure data, estimates were made for non-response in the same way. Estimates were made individually for companies reporting research and development expenditure over £250,000 in the earlier inquiry but failing to respond to the main survey. For the 'smaller' non-responding enterprises estimates were made for blocks of companies, one block for companies spending between £100,000 and £250,000 on research and development and the other spending less than £100,000. For these blocks of small R & D spenders, the number of employees (not just R & D employees) in non-responding companies was expressed as a proportion of all employees in responding companies (from the register in the Business Statistics Office) thereby providing a raising factor which could be applied to R & D data supplied.

Non-response estimates for the two blocks of 'smaller' companies amounted to under 2 per cent of the final estimate of R & D expenditure or of R & D employment. By contrast the number of 'larger' non-responding companies was quite small, but accounted for 4 per cent of the grand total of expenditure and employment. The overall rate of response in 1972 was therefore 94 per cent, higher than in previous years. Whereas estimates for non-response were necessary in the case of private industry, the response from public corporations

APPENDIX TABLE 1. Employment on research and development, 1972

Product group	All industry	Private industry	Public corporation	Research associations	Total R & D expenditure	Proportion of R & D expenditure	Proportion of R & D employment
	Thousands at 31 December				£ million	%	%
ALL PRODUCT GROUPS	182.5	163.2	13.7	5.6	835.2	100	100
Mining and quarrying	0.9	0.6	0.1	0.2	3.4	—	—
Manufactures:							
Total	177.4	161.8	10.9	4.7	808.1	97	97
Food, drink, tobacco	6.6	6.2	—	0.4	26.6	3	4
Chemical and allied products:							
Total	31.6	30.8	0.4	0.4	140.8	17	17
Petroleum products	2.9	2.9	—	—	13.8	2	2
Pharmaceutical products	8.6	8.6	—	—	43.2	5	5
Paint	1.4	1.4	—	0.1	4.1	—	—
Synthetic rubber, resins and plastic materials	3.3	3.2	—	0.1	14.8	2	2
Other chemicals	15.4	14.8	0.4	0.2	64.9	8	8
Iron and steel	3.5	0.6	2.6	0.3	14.2	2	2
Non-ferrous metals	1.6	1.4	—	0.2	6.7	1	1
Mechanical engineering:							
Total	13.1	9.2	3.2	0.6	54.1	6	7
Metal-working machine tools	0.7	0.4	—	0.3	2.6	—	—
Textile machinery	0.4	0.3	—	0.1	1.7	—	—
Mechanical handling and contractors' plant	0.9	0.7	0.3	—	4.1	—	—
Industrial plant and steelwork	2.1	0.5	1.4	0.1	17.0	2	1
Other machinery and equipment	9.0	7.3	1.5	0.2	28.5	3	5
Scientific instruments and systems	5.1	4.9	—	0.2	20.8	2	3
Electrical engineering:							
Total	52.1	47.2	4.4	0.4	219.6	26	29
Electronic computers	4.7	4.6	—	0.1	27.3	3	3
Electronic components and apparatus including telecommunications	36.8	33.2	3.6	—	152.1	18	20
Electrical machinery	6.2	5.4	0.5	0.3	24.5	3	3
Domestic appliances	0.8	0.7	—	—	2.9	—	—
Miscellaneous electrical goods	3.6	3.3	0.2	—	12.8	2	2
Ships and marine engines	1.3	0.9	—	0.3	7.2	1	1
Motor vehicles	13.4	13.1	—	0.2	57.3	7	7
Aerospace (including air cushion vehicles)	35.4	35.4	—	—	208.4	25	19
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	2.3	2.2	0.1	0.1	8.7	1	1
Textiles and man-made fibres	3.6	3.2	—	0.4	13.4	2	2
Leather, leather goods and fur	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.2	—	—
Clothing and footwear	0.3	0.1	—	0.2	0.8	—	—
Building materials and abrasives	1.2	1.1	—	0.2	4.6	1	1
Pottery, china and glass	1.7	1.6	—	0.1	7.5	1	1
Timber and furniture	0.3	0.1	—	0.2	1.0	—	—
Paper, paper products and printing	1.2	1.0	—	0.1	4.3	1	1
Rubber and rubber goods	1.6	1.4	—	0.2	5.9	1	1
Other manufactures	1.5	1.5	—	—	5.9	1	1
Construction	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.3	3.2	—	—
Utilities and services	3.4	0.4	2.6	0.4	20.5	2	2

— Nil or less than 50.

was complete and from research associations almost complete. Response rates for the years prior to 1972 together with an account of methods was published in *Research and Development Expenditure* (HMSO 1973).

To ensure that trends in employment over time were not affected by changes in classification, it was necessary to make allowances for non-response for groups of product groups which were common to all years.

In previous publications an adjustment was made to expenditure to allow for the fact that expenditure as recorded by Government Departments was higher than that reported by companies. The difference is now believed to be attributable to the adoption of a wider definition of research and development in the Government figures. The adjustment has therefore been omitted from the wage and salary bills which correspond to the employment estimates in this paper. The affect of these adjustments on the published figures for the years 1966 to 1969 was to reduce previous estimates as illustrated below:

Intra-mural expenditure on R & D in private industry

£ million

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1972
As in Table D	535	550	583	622	739
As previously published	562	570	602	636	739

APPENDIX TABLE 3 Employment on research and development, 1967-1972. Product groups in private industry

Thousands at 31 December

Product group	1967	1968	1969	1972
ALL PRODUCT GROUPS	198	197	193	163
All manufacturing	196	196	191	162
Food, drink, tobacco	7	7	7	6
Coal petroleum, chemical and allied products Total	31	33	33	31
Petroleum products	4	4	4	3
Pharmaceutical products	7	6	7	9
Plastics	4	4	4	3
Other chemicals	17	19	18	16
Metal manufacture (Exc BSC)	4	3	3	2
Mechanical engineering – Total	19	18	15	9
Machine tools	2	2	1	*
Other mechanical engineering	17	16	14	9
Scientific instruments and systems	5	5	6	5
Electrical engineering – Total	52	54	54	47
Electronics and telecommunications	40	42	42	38
Electrical machinery	5	6	6	5
Other electrical engineering	6	6	6	4
Motor vehicles	14	14	14	13
Shipbuilding and marine engineering	1	1	1	1
Aerospace	45	42	41	35
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	3	3	3	2
Textiles, leather, clothing, footwear	5	5	5	3
Other manufactures	10	10	9	7
Non-manufacturing	2	2	2	1

BSC-British Steel Corporation (BSC ceased to be part of private industry from 1967 onwards).

* Less than 500.

APPENDIX TABLE 2 Occupational grouping of employment on research and development, 1972

Thousands at 31 December

	Scientists and engineers				Technicians, laboratory assistants and draughtsmen				Administrative and clerical staff				Others (including industrial staff)			
	Total	Private industry	Public corp.	Research ass.	Total	Private industry	Public corp.	Research ass.	Total	Private industry	Public corp.	Research ass.	Total	Private industry	Public corp.	Research ass.
ALL PRODUCT GROUPS	60.8	52.1	6.5	2.3	64.1	58.6	3.9	1.6	24.9	22.0	1.8	1.1	32.6	30.6	1.5	0.6
Mining and quarrying	0.3	0.2	—	0.1	0.4	0.3	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Manufactures:																
Total	58.7	51.6	5.1	1.9	62.5	58.0	3.2	1.3	24.2	21.8	1.4	1.0	32.1	30.4	1.3	0.5
Food, drink, tobacco	1.7	1.5	—	0.2	2.9	2.7	—	0.1	0.9	0.9	—	—	1.2	1.1	—	0.1
Chemical and allied products:																
Total	10.0	9.7	0.1	0.2	13.4	13.1	0.2	0.1	3.8	3.6	—	0.1	4.5	4.4	0.1	—
Petroleum products	0.9	0.9	—	—	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.9	0.9	—	—
Pharmaceutical products	2.5	2.5	—	—	4.1	4.1	—	—	1.1	1.1	—	—	0.9	0.9	—	—
Paint	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.8	0.8	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Synthetic rubber, resins and plastic materials	1.0	1.0	—	—	1.4	1.4	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—
Other chemicals	5.2	5.0	0.1	0.1	6.3	6.1	0.2	0.1	1.7	1.6	—	—	2.2	2.1	0.1	—
Iron and steel	1.5	0.2	1.2	0.1	1.1	0.2	0.8	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	—
Non-ferrous metals	0.6	0.5	—	0.1	0.6	0.6	—	0.1	0.3	0.2	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—
Mechanical engineering:																
Total	4.4	2.7	1.5	0.3	4.6	3.7	0.7	0.2	1.8	1.3	0.4	0.1	2.3	1.5	0.7	0.1
Metal-working machine tools	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—
Textile machinery	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—
Mechanical handling and contractors' plant	0.3	0.1	0.1	—	0.4	0.3	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—
Industrial plant and steelwork	0.8	0.2	0.6	—	0.6	0.2	0.4	—	0.3	0.1	0.2	—	0.3	0.1	0.2	—
Other machinery and equipment	3.0	2.2	0.7	0.1	3.2	2.8	0.3	0.1	1.2	1.0	0.1	—	1.6	1.2	0.4	—
Scientific instruments and systems	1.6	1.5	—	0.1	2.0	2.0	—	—	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.8	0.8	—	—
Electrical engineering:																
Total	20.1	17.7	2.2	0.2	18.2	16.6	1.5	0.1	6.8	6.2	0.5	0.1	7.0	6.7	0.2	—
Electronic computers	0.9	0.9	—	—	2.3	2.3	—	—	0.5	0.4	—	—	1.1	1.1	—	—
Electronic components and apparatus including telecommunications	15.3	13.5	1.8	—	12.1	10.8	1.2	—	4.9	4.4	0.5	—	4.5	4.4	0.1	—
Electrical machinery	2.0	1.7	0.3	0.1	2.5	2.2	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.7	—	0.1	1.0	0.9	0.1	—
Domestic appliances	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Miscellaneous electrical goods	1.6	1.5	0.1	—	1.1	1.0	0.1	—	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—
Ships and marine engines	0.5	0.3	—	0.1	0.3	0.3	—	0.1	0.3	0.2	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	—
Motor vehicles	3.1	3.1	—	0.1	4.1	4.0	—	0.1	2.2	2.2	—	—	4.0	4.0	—	—
Aerospace (including air cushion vehicles)	10.4	10.4	—	—	10.3	10.3	—	—	5.1	5.1	—	—	9.6	9.6	—	—
Metal goods not elsewhere specified	0.8	0.7	—	—	0.8	0.8	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—	0.4	0.4	—	—
Textiles and man-made fibres	1.2	1.0	—	0.2	1.5	1.3	—	0.1	0.3	0.3	—	0.1	0.7	0.6	—	—
Leather, leather goods and fur	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clothing and footwear	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building materials and abrasives	0.4	0.3	—	0.1	0.5	0.5	—	0.1	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.1	—	—
Pottery, china and glass	0.9	0.8	—	0.1	0.3	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.3	—	—
Timber and furniture	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	—
Paper, paper products and printing	0.4	0.4	—	0.1	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—	0.1	0.1	—	—
Rubber and rubber goods	0.5	0.4	—	0.1	0.6	0.6	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.3	0.2	—	—
Other manufactures	0.5	0.5	—	—	0.6	0.5	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—	0.2	0.2	—	—
Construction	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	0.2	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.1	0.1	0.1	—	0.1
Utilities and services	1.6	0.1	1.3	0.1	1.0	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2	—	0.2	—

— nil or less than 50

Metal-working machine tools

Monthly analysis of sales and orders for October 1974

This article presents in Table 1 provisional monthly statistics of manufacturers' sales and orders for metal working machine tools up to October of this year. The statistics will also be published in Business Monitor PM 332.

These monthly values of sales and orders, have been adjusted up to June 1974 to be consistent with the results of the quarterly inquiry published in Business Monitor PQ 332. The estimates for the latest months (July to October 1974) also will be adjusted when the more comprehensive results for the third quarter of 1974 become available.

Commentary

Monthly statistics are now available for the first 10 months of 1974. They show that the overall level of sales in the three months up to October of this year were practically unchanged in value terms compared with the previous three months. Though export sales for August-October 1974 show a marked increase of 7 per cent on the preceding three months, the corresponding home sales declined by 3 per cent resulting in only a marginal rise in total sales. Both home and export sales in October were at record levels in current price terms, but values observed in August 1974 were relatively low and reduced the current three month totals. Nevertheless the value of total sales in the current period (August-October) was 12 per cent higher than in the same period a year earlier, with the greater part of this increase being attributable to a rise of 17 per cent in export sales, while home sales rose by 9 per cent. This growth in the value of sales is the result of a steep rise in prices of machine tools and does not indicate a true increase in the flow of goods; indeed it might mask a slight decrease in the volume of sales.

The latest figures for new orders show that at current prices the value of new contracts fell sharply (by 15 per cent) in the three months August to October 1974, both as compared with the period May-July 1974 and with August-October 1973, but home new orders showed much the greater fall (of 22 per cent) compared with a year earlier, while export new orders were only 3 per cent lower.

Despite the slower rates of inflow of new home and export contracts in the latest period, new orders have continued to arrive in the three months August to October 1974 at a rate nearly a fifth higher by value than home and export sales in the same period. Order books have consequently continued to grow in current price terms. Orders-on-hand for the home and export markets were respectively 6 per cent and 3 per cent higher than in May-July 1974, so that total orders-on-hand increased by 4 per cent over this period. Compared with a year earlier, however, orders-on-hand in August to October 1974 were 39 per cent higher for the home market, 68 per cent higher for the export market, and 52 per cent higher in total.

While part of this growth reflects the higher prices at which new orders have been made, there was also a significant increase in the volume of outstanding orders during the 12 months up to October 1974. The more modest growth of order books in current value terms in the latest months, however, suggests that there was little if any further increase in the volume of orders-on-hand for either the home or export sectors last autumn.

TABLE 1 Metal-working machine tools: orders and sales

£ million

	Sales			Orders outstanding*			New orders		
	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export	Total	Home	Export
1966	164.0	118.9	45.1	110.7	78.0	32.7	160.1	114.1	46.0
1967	171.2	123.9	47.3	110.9	54.1	46.8	161.4	100.0	61.4
1968	168.8	113.5	55.1	116.1	61.7	54.4	183.8	121.0	62.7
1969	189.1	119.1	70.0	164.2	93.3	70.9	237.2	150.7	86.5
1970	218.6	137.3	81.3	159.2	86.8	72.7	213.9	130.8	83.1
1971	207.7	121.7	86.0	106.0	46.0	60.0	154.2	80.9	73.3
1972	184.7	111.6	73.1	113.3	55.7	57.6	192.0	121.3	70.7
1973	214.4	130.2	84.2	204.6	112.4	92.2	305.7	186.9	118.8
1973 1st quarter	57.0	37.4	19.6	122.4	62.7	59.7	66.1	44.4	21.7
2nd quarter	49.5	29.1	20.4	143.7	76.4	67.3	70.8	42.8	28.0
3rd quarter	51.1	29.5	21.6	176.8	95.3	81.5	84.2	48.4	35.8
4th quarter	56.8	34.2	22.6	204.6	112.4	92.2	84.6	51.3	33.3
1974 1st quarter	55.7	34.1	21.6	228.2	119.9	108.3	79.3	41.6	37.7
2nd quarter	55.8	32.6	23.2	259.1	132.4	126.7	86.7	45.0	41.7
3rd quarter	58.8	33.2	25.6	276.7	141.3	135.4	76.4	42.1	34.3
1973 July	14.3	8.8	5.5	151.7	80.2	71.5	22.6	13.0	9.6
August	16.3	9.0	7.3	164.6	85.6	79.0	29.2	14.4	14.8
September	20.6	11.8	8.8	176.6	94.8	80.8	31.6	21.0	10.6
October	18.0	10.3	7.7	182.6	101.8	80.8	25.0	17.3	7.7
November	21.9	12.8	9.1	191.5	106.7	84.8	30.8	17.7	13.1
December	16.1	10.5	5.6	203.0	111.9	91.1	27.6	15.7	11.9
1974 January	15.2	9.4	5.8	212.4	114.2	98.2	23.0	11.2	11.8
February	18.3	10.7	7.6	223.8	118.4	105.4	29.7	14.9	14.8
March	22.2	14.0	8.2	228.2	119.9	108.3	26.6	15.5	11.1
April	16.6	9.8	6.8	241.3	122.6	118.7	29.7	12.5	17.2
May	20.1	12.0	8.1	250.9	129.1	121.8	29.7	18.5	11.2
June	19.1	10.7	8.4	259.1	132.4	126.7	27.3	14.0	13.3
July p	21.8	12.2	9.6	266.3	134.5	131.8	29.0	14.3	14.7
August p	17.0	9.8	7.2	272.6	138.2	134.4	23.3	13.5	9.8
September p	20.0	11.2	8.8	276.7	141.3	135.4	24.1	14.3	9.8
October p	24.7	12.8	11.9	277.9	142.0	135.9	25.9	13.5	12.4
Three-monthly totals									
August-October 1974	61.7	33.8	27.9	277.9	142.0	135.9	73.3	41.3	32.0
May-July 1974	61.0	34.9	26.1	266.3	134.5	131.8	86.0	46.8	39.2
August-October 1973	54.9	31.1	23.8	182.6	101.8	80.8	85.8	52.7	33.1
Percentage change latest three months on									
1 Previous three months	+1	−3	+7	+4	+6	+3	−15	−12	−18
2 A year earlier	+12	+9	+17	+52	+39	+68	−15	−22	−3

p = Provisional.

* The values for orders outstanding relate to the ends of the periods shown.

Foreign arrivals in the United Kingdom during October 1974

During October 492,000 foreign visitors, including all travellers from EEC countries, arrived in the United Kingdom, 2 per cent down on October 1973, according to the Department of Trade and the British Tourist Authority. (The figures exclude visitors from the Irish Republic and Commonwealth citizens.) The total number of arrivals in the first 10 months of 1974 is slightly above the total in the same period of 1973.

The number of visitors from the United States continued to fall with the number of arrivals in October 1974 16 per cent less than in October 1973; the total for the first 10 months of 1974 was 19 per cent below the same period of 1973. During January to October 1974 total arrivals from the EEC countries rose by 6 per cent from their level of the previous year. Within the EEC countries the largest growth has been in the number of visitors from Germany (7 per cent), and high rates of growth have been recorded from Belgium and Luxembourg (12 per cent) and Denmark (14 per cent). The number of arrivals from other European countries was up by 9 per cent in the first 10 months. Increase in the number of visitors from Sweden (10 per cent) and Spain (12 per cent) contributed most to this rise. The increase for the rest of the world was 10 per cent during January to October. Visitors from Japan fell by 10 per cent but this fall was compensated for by rises from most other countries.

The seasonally adjusted series for the United States remain at a low level although it has been a little higher in the last two months; for EEC countries in particular, the other seasonally adjusted series show generally rising trends from the low levels recorded at the beginning of 1974.

Notes

The figures in the table are limited to foreign nationals, excluding Commonwealth citizens and citizens of the Irish Republic.

For non-EEC countries visitors entering for a stay of under one year are shown while, for EEC countries, total arrivals are shown irrespective of their purposes of visit or length of stay. This follows the entry of the United Kingdom into the EEC, since when citizens of Community countries are generally admited to the United Kingdom without having to state their purpose of visit, or expected length of stay.

Seasonally adjusted figures: Simple comparisons of monthly figures between one year and another, or between adjacent months can be misleading. The seasonally adjusted figures provide a better basis for comparison with other months, or for judging current trends. In estimating the seasonal adjustments allowance has been made for changes in the seasonal pattern, which have been in the direction of a spreading of the tourist season, with some reduction in the summer peak relative to the rest of the year. Adjustment was also made for the effect of the varying date of Easter on numbers of Western European visitors.

Foreign arrivals

Thousands per month

	Total arrivals from EEC countries (excluding Irish Republic)		Foreign visitors from non-EEC countries: Rest of Western Europe (non-EEC)		United States		Other foreign countries		Total non-EEC countries	
1967	126		30		70		23		123	
1968	144		34		73		29		136	
1969	174		40		95		35		170	
1970	199		47		117		41		205	
1971	214		53		129		46		228	
1972	232		59		134		51		244	
1973	265		70		131		62		263	
	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA	UA	SA
1973										
January	139	253	35	63	60	140	34	54	129	257
February	132	260	36	66	51	142	29	56	116	264
March	170	254	44	64	88	139	46	68	178	271
April	334	239	78	71	129	146	49	61	256	278
May	266	239	56	58	169	136	61	61	284	255
June	299	256	88	66	196	124	73	61	357	251
July	535	254	142	67	228	118	106	61	476	246
August	408	256	89	71	197	114	101	60	387	245
September	278	266	74	72	181	125	91	63	346	260
October	242	296	73	74	122	130	64	63	259	267
November	186	326	63	88	83	131	46	74	192	293
December	186	276	57	75	66	123	47	65	170	263
1974										
January	141	261	38	67	50	121	40	65	128	253
February	132	266	38	70	42	120	35	67	115	257
March	216	267	53	71	68	111	52	75	173	257
April	320	266	79	76	95	111	52	65	226	252
May	295	273	63	88	121	102	62	61	246	231
June	313	273	96	73	160	106	83	68	338	247
July	560	273	154	73	189	104	120	67	463	246
August	458	295	93	75	167	100	111	66	371	241
September	298	288	86	83	159	112	96	67	342	264
October	243	295	77	76	103	112	70	70	249	258
Jan.-Oct. 1973	2,803		716		1,419		654		2,789	
Jan.-Oct. 1974	2,977		778		1,152		719		2,649	

Total arrivals – all persons admitted including long stay and short stay visitors from EEC countries

Foreign visitors – all persons entering for visits of under one year from non-EEC countries excluding Commonwealth countries.

UA – unadjusted. SA – seasonally adjusted. Source: Home Office.

Wholesale price indices in January

In January the provisional price index for home sales of manufactured products rose by 2¾ per cent to 172.0 (1970=100). As in December the most significant items were increases in food prices together with higher prices for petroleum products and vehicles. These again accounted for over half of the monthly increase.

The rise of 3½ per cent in the provisional price index for the output of the food manufacturing industry was mainly due to higher prices for sugar, the only decreases for the month occurring in the prices of vegetable and animal oils.

The provisional price index of materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry fell by ¼ per cent to 221.7 last month. This index has risen by ¾ per cent in the three months November to January. An increase in January of ¼ per cent in the price of basic materials for manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries was more than offset by lower prices for the food manufacturing industry. Imported commodities (especially cereals) and milk for liquid consumption showed decreases in price with only sugar in the food index showing a significant rise in price during January.

The increase in the price index for basic materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries was largely due to higher prices for crude oil and woodpulp. The continued fall in prices of imported steel, copper and silver restricted the size of the increase. There has been no change in the provisional price index of fuel purchased by manufacturing industry in January.

1970 = 100

	1974		1975
	November	December p	January p
Output prices (home sales)			
All manufactured products	164.8	167.4	172.0
Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco industries	170.7	173.3	178.0
Products of the food manufacturing industries	179.1	182.6	189.2
Prices of materials and fuels purchased			
By all manufacturing industry	223.8	222.5	221.7
By all manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	236.2	236.6	237.1
By food manufacturing industries	189.5	189.4	188.2

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

In the three months ended October 1974 deliveries were estimated to be 3 per cent lower, on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis, than in the three months ended July 1974. Net new orders were 3 per cent higher than in the previous three months, while at the end of October orders on hand were 2 per cent up on the July 1974 level. The index of production in the three months ended October 1974 was 6 per cent lower than in the three months ended July 1974.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumer expenditure, prices and employment are published in the Business Monitor Production Series under the reference PQ 450.

The table below is compiled from the results of the monthly and quarterly inquiries which started at the beginning of 1971 and the KS inquiry which they superseded. Linkage factors spanning the fourth quarter 1970 and the first quarter 1971 have been calculated from matching samples of firms contributing to both the old and new inquiries and the KS results adjusted to provide a single, broadly comparable series. Since the linking factors cover only two quarters, however, the amended back data for 1966-70 should be interpreted with caution.

The index of production is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). The movements shown by the index numbers will frequently differ from those shown by the absolute figures of pairage and value which relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC.

Export pictures

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story, with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your news and photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Index of production: Orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of production 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)			Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs
1966		33.6			..			16.4			
1967		37.8			16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6			17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6			15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9			16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5		55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5		59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2		85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1973 1st quarter	105	36.2	34.9	62.4	18.1	15.4	29.6	15.9	15.5	28.7	18.7
2nd quarter	108	45.8	41.8	86.5	18.0	18.1	34.0	14.9	15.8	25.9	20.6
3rd quarter	110	40.6	50.7	73.9	13.7	18.2	25.0	15.5	15.2	29.2	16.3
4th quarter	111	46.2	51.2	85.2	18.4	16.5	33.6	16.5	16.3	29.8	16.5
1974 1st quarter	101	52.2	51.8	89.0	15.9	14.0	30.7	13.9	13.8	29.4	13.6
2nd quarter	112	51.9	47.7	95.1	14.3	14.0	32.1	14.4	15.3	30.0	19.4
3rd quarter p	113	42.3	51.2	74.2	12.5	16.4	27.1	15.7	15.2	34.1	16.4
1973 April	110	41.0	36.6	75.2	19.5	17.2	36.8	14.8	15.4	25.9	
May	105	45.4	37.7	86.7	20.1	17.3	38.6	15.6	16.2	27.0	
June	107	45.8	41.8	86.5	14.5	19.7	24.6	14.1	15.7	24.9	
July	110	42.7	44.1	76.6	11.9	17.7	17.4	15.0	15.5	27.3	
August	113	41.3	46.8	75.2	14.0	18.2	27.9	15.4	15.5	29.3	
September	109	40.6	50.7	73.9	15.4	18.6	29.7	16.1	14.7	31.0	
October	109	45.6	54.7	81.3	24.4	19.8	42.7	19.4	15.8	35.4	
November	114	49.1	55.3	92.5	21.5	17.3	43.2	17.9	16.7	32.0	
December	109	46.2	51.2	85.2	9.2	12.3	14.7	12.1	16.4	22.0	
1974 January	98	46.5	50.6	86.4	12.8	12.0	27.1	12.5	12.6	25.9	
February	98	50.8	53.4	88.0	17.4	16.1	29.3	13.1	13.3	27.8	
March	108	52.2	51.8	89.0	17.6	13.8	35.7	16.1	15.4	34.7	
April	114	55.2	51.8	92.4	18.4	15.4	35.0	15.5	15.4	31.8	
May	106	55.9	49.9	101.3	15.3	13.2	38.9	14.6	15.1	30.1	
June	116	51.9	47.7	95.1	9.3	13.3	22.3	13.2	15.5	28.5	
July p	119	48.5	49.9	82.6	12.5	17.9	22.4	15.9	15.7	34.9	
August p	113	43.7	48.1	75.4	10.2	13.9	24.4	14.9	15.7	31.6	
September p	105	42.3	51.2	74.2	14.9	17.4	34.6	16.3	14.3	35.8	
October p	101	41.7	50.7	78.6	17.5	14.3	42.7	18.2	14.9	38.3	

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Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries

In the three months ended October 1974, deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 2 per cent higher than in the preceding three months. New net orders were 3 per cent higher and orders-on-hand at the end of October were 11 per cent below the end July level.

The seasonally adjusted figures have been revised and are now based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973.

(These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying table.)

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of the volume of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 1st quarter	144	148	126	129	116	113
2nd quarter	175	157	136	129	116	119
3rd quarter	150	158	102	118	115	117
4th quarter	155	155	129	117	120	118
1974 1st quarter	163	170	111	115	107	106
2nd quarter p	172	157	123	115	114	116
3rd quarter p	138	148	97	111	116	119
1973 January	137	133	116	129	100	111
February	137	139	125	133	124	118
March	144	148	137	125	123	109
April	155	159	138	136	120	121
May	169	150	141	118	112	117
June	175	157	129	133	117	119
July	161	157	90	117	111	117
August	157	161	97	122	103	116
September	150	158	118	113	130	118
October	159	159	165	129	137	120
November	164	154	141	115	128	120
December	155	155	81	108	96	115
1974 January	166	165	96	111	92	106
February	169	174	122	130	108	103
March	163	170	116	105	122	108
April p	172	180	134	130	115	115
May p	184	166	135	112	108	113
June p	172	157	100	103	117	120
July p	158	157	86	112	113	118
August p	145	151	87	109	106	120
September p	138	148	117	112	130	118
October p	138	140	145	114	136	119

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Her Majesty's Stationery Office will continue to handle all circulation and distribution matters and subscription inquiries and queries should continue to be addressed to them.

Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistic Bureau show that in the period January-November 1974 the amount of cloth woven was 5 per cent lower than in the corresponding period of 1973. Production of single yarn decreased by 9 per cent and doubled yarn by 10 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.8	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1973 January*	2.5	1.7	1.6		9.3	9.7
February	2.6	1.9	1.7		10.0	10.2
March	2.5	2.0	1.8		10.0	10.4
April	2.2	1.7	1.6		8.8	9.4
May*	2.5	2.0	1.8		9.5	10.1
June	2.0	1.8	1.5		9.5	10.1
July	1.8	1.3	1.3		5.8	7.1
August*	2.2	1.8	1.6		8.5	9.1
September	1.8	1.5	1.4		7.4	9.3
October*	2.3	2.0	1.7		9.2	10.9
November	2.3	2.0	1.6		9.3	11.0
December	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.0	8.2
1974 January*	1.6	1.4	1.1		6.6	6.8
February	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.1	7.9
March	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.6
April	2.0	1.9	1.6		8.0	10.5
May*	2.3	2.1	1.7		8.6	10.7
June	2.0	1.9	1.5		9.0	11.2
July*	1.7	1.4	1.3		5.4	7.8
August	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.8
September	1.8	1.5	1.3		6.8	9.9
October*	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.0	11.4
November	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.5	11.1

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

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Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in November 1974 was 17 per cent lower than in November 1973. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-November 1974 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 9 per cent less than in the corresponding period of 1973; deliveries of worsted yarn (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 14 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 30 per cent less but that of man-made fibre tops was at the same level.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1972 1st quarter	37.2	18.7	11.0	32.3	24.2	22.6	20.7	7.3
2nd quarter	39.3	19.5	11.8	33.8	26.6	25.7	20.7	5.7
3rd quarter	36.0	18.1	10.8	29.8	23.5	25.0	19.6	7.1
4th quarter	39.8	19.0	12.4	35.2	27.2	26.7	22.8	8.8
1973 1st quarter	40.7	19.9	13.3	36.8	27.8	25.8	24.5	8.6
2nd quarter	34.9	16.6	13.9	33.4	24.6	27.2	21.7	7.3
3rd quarter	29.2	13.0	13.0	29.8	21.8	24.1	19.9	6.7
4th quarter	31.8	12.9	15.6	35.2	25.7	27.3	22.2	8.1
1974 1st quarter	28.4	11.9	13.3	29.5	21.5	22.7	20.9	7.8
2nd quarter	33.6	12.8	15.5	36.7	23.5	25.c	21.2	7.2
3rd quarter		10.0	14.0	28.0	20.6	23.0	19.4	6.4
1973 January	14.3	6.8	4.2	12.9	9.5	8.7	8.2	3.3
February	12.3	6.1	4.0	11.3	8.6	7.9	7.7	2.5
March	14.1	7.0	5.1	12.6	9.7	9.3	8.6	2.8
April	11.4	5.6	4.6	10.3	7.8	7.5	7.1	2.5
May	11.5	5.5	4.9	11.1	8.5	9.7	7.4	2.5
June	12.0	5.5	4.4	12.1	8.3	9.9	7.2	2.3
July	9.9	5.1	5.0	9.0	7.3	7.5	7.0	1.6
August	9.0	3.5	3.3	10.0	7.3	7.4	5.8	2.5
September	10.3	4.4	4.7	10.8	7.2	9.1	7.2	2.6
October	11.8	4.7	5.5	13.2	9.5	9.7	7.9	2.8
November	11.3	4.8	5.7	12.5	9.1	9.8	8.1	2.9
December	8.7	3.4	4.5	9.6	7.0	7.8	6.2	2.4
1974 January	8.7	3.6	3.8	9.2	6.8	7.4	6.7	2.3
February	8.6	3.6	4.0	8.8	6.9	7.0	6.6	2.9
March	11.1	4.7	5.5	11.5	7.8	8.3	7.6	2.6
April	11.0	4.4	5.9	12.0	8.1	8.3	7.0	2.4
May	10.9	4.2	4.8	12.1	7.6	9.0	7.1	2.5
June	11.7	4.2	4.8	12.6	7.8	8.5	7.1	2.3
July	9.2	4.0	6.1	9.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	1.6
August	7.7	2.5	3.7	9.0	6.4	7.5	5.7	2.3
September	9.0	3.6	4.2	9.7	6.8	7.9	6.8	2.6
October		3.3	4.9	10.1	8.4	8.2	7.9	2.5
November		3.0	3.8	9.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	2.5

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In November deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 1.0 million kilos.

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1974, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

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Production of man-made fibres in November 1974

In the three months ended November 1974 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 8 per cent less than in the three months ended in August 1974. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in the period January-November 1974 was 12 per cent lower than in the corresponding period of 1973; output of continuous filament decreased by 9 per cent and staple fibre decreased by 13 per cent.

Man-made fibre production Thousand metric tons

	Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968	539.1	241.8	297.4
1969	553.9	252.5	301.5
1970	599.4	257.6	341.9
1971	613.1	276.4	336.7
1972	626.5	264.0	362.5
1973	730.8	305.6	425.3
1973 1st quarter	183.5	78.1	105.4
2nd quarter	186.1	79.4	106.7
3rd quarter	171.4	70.6	100.8
4th quarter	189.9	77.5	112.4
1974 1st quarter	174.0	69.9	104.1
2nd quarter	175.1	71.7	103.4
3rd quarter	149.9	67.1	82.7
1973 July	59.5	24.1	35.4
August	55.0	22.0	33.0
September	56.8	24.5	32.3
October	67.1	27.3	39.7
November	63.0	25.9	37.1
December	59.8	24.3	35.5
1974 January	57.1	21.7	35.4
February	54.9	22.4	32.5
March	62.1	25.9	36.2
April	63.9	25.6	38.3
May	55.9	24.9	31.0
June	55.3	21.1	34.2
July	55.6	22.8	32.8
August	48.5	21.3	27.2
September	45.9	23.1	22 8
October	50.7	25.2	25.5
November	43.1	20.7	22.4

Index of the volume of production 1970 = 100

		Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1968		87	
1969		92	
1970		100	
1971		106	
1972		107	
1973		127	
1973	1st quarter	129	127
	2nd quarter	131	128
	3rd quarter	118	125
	4th quarter	130	129
1974	1st quarter	120	117
	2nd quarter	119	116
	3rd quarter	109	117
1973	July	120	126
	August	112	127
	September	124	125
	October	137	135
	November	134	129
	December	120	124
1974	January	112	110
	February	122	120
	March	125	121
	April	131	129
	May	116	112
	June	110	107
	July	113	119
	August	106	120
	September	109	110
	October	116	114
	November	99	95

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1973, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1974 are incorporated.

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Energy trends: Further evidence of reduced consumption

Energy consumption during November was about 3 per cent lower than in November 1973. Consumption of oil was over 6 per cent lower than a year earlier and coal was down 8 per cent. Natural gas usage over the same period increased by about 15 per cent.

These figures are included in the latest issue of the Department of Energy's statistical bulletin *Energy Trends*, which also contains a new graph showing movements in total energy consumption over the past year.

Provisional figures for the third quarter of 1974 indicate that energy consumption measured on a heat supplied basis (after deducting conversion and distribution losses) was much the same as that of the third-quarter 1973 level. Consumption in the domestic sector increased by 10 per cent, reflecting the substantially colder weather during the quarter.

Coal manpower increases

Energy Trends reports that there was an increase of more than 1,000 men on colliery books during 1974. This was the first time since 1957 that there has been an increase in colliery manpower during a year.

Coal consumption in December was 10 per cent down on December 1973. Largely, because of the unusually warm weather, consumption at power stations was over 17 per cent down. This also meant that there was only a marginal fall in power station stocks which would normally fall substantially during December.

Electricity supply slightly higher

Although total electricity supplied during November was about 2 per cent higher than in November 1973, when allowance is made for the cooler weather, the increase was probably around 0.5 to 1 per cent.

Electricity sales in the third quarter increased by 1.6 per cent compared with the third quarter of 1973.

Gas sales over the same period rose by 23 per cent.

Refinery output down

Output of finished products from refineries, in November, was about 3 per cent below November last year. *Energy Trends* says that a higher proportion of light products is now being produced, reflecting the pattern of demand.

Total deliveries of products during the same month were about 6.5 per cent down on November 1973.

Oil stocks held by companies (24.5 million tons) did not change significantly during December. They now represent 81 day's supply.

Notes

The energy consumption series has been recalculated to reflect revised seasonal adjustment factors and a change in the factor used to express natural gas in terms of coal equivalent. (Originally, natural gas was used predominantly by the domestic market and was converted to coal equivalent at 280 therms per ton, the rate appropriate to domestic coal. The use of natural gas has since become widespread, and to reflect this, the conversion factor is now 255 therms per ton.)

Overall energy consumption during the ten years 1963-73 grew at an average rate of a little over 2 per cent a year, on a primary fuel input basis.

Energy Trends is prepared by the Economics and Statistics Division of the Department of Energy. Copies are available free from: Information Division, Department of Energy, Room 1260, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

'Digest of UK Energy Statistics 1974'

Additions to this year's edition of the *Digest of United Kingdom Energy Statistics* – published on 6 February – include the use of four different methods of measuring the nation's consumption of primary fuels, as well as new charts and diagrams.

Available from any Government bookshop, price £5 net, the new Digest contains some 170 pages comprising 113 tables and about 20 charts, diagrams and maps. It has been prepared by the Economics and Statistics Division of the Department of Energy and published by HMSO. It is the 26th in the series of annual publications designed to give a comprehensive summary of the nation's energy sector.

Individual sections are devoted to the more important annual statistics available on energy as a whole, on North Sea oil and gas, and also on each of the major fuels, their prices and values; financial data, foreign trade and Census of Production information are also included. There are also a large number of presentational improvements.

Each copy also contains a loose pocket-size information card giving, in summary form, a selection of the more important data from the Digest.

New diagrams (on pages 6 to 11 of the Digest) show important changes over recent years in the pattern of fuel consumption. They illustrate, for example, that – in the decade 1963 to 1973 – the share of coal in final consumption shrank from 38 per cent to 13 per cent, while gas grew from 6½ per cent to 18 per cent.

Over the same period the consumption by different sectors also changed, with the domestic share of the market declining from 29 per cent to 24 per cent, all industry rising from 41 per cent to 43 per cent and road transport from 11 per cent to 16 per cent.

A new arrangement of Table 8 shows the flow from primary fuel input to final consumers. This table, and the Key Statistics on page vii, illustrate how primary fuels (38 per cent coal, 46 per cent petroleum, 12 per cent natural gas and nearly 4 per cent nuclear and hydro electricity) are transferred by the energy industries to the final consumer either directly or after conversion.

The pattern of consumption, after allowing for the conversion processes, changes dramatically (21 per cent for coal and other solid fuels, 49 per cent for petroleum products, 12 per cent for electricity and 18 per cent for gas).

New maps include those illustrating the main areas in which licences have been granted for exploration for petroleum and natural gas in the North Sea, the principal discoveries and the natural gas transmission system.

Copies of the loose information card, *United Kingdom Energy Statistics 1974*, are available separately, free on request, from the Department of Energy Library, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

Turnover of the catering trades in December 1974

The total turnover of the catering trades in the fourth quarter of 1974 was almost 5 per cent more than in the third quarter, at current prices and after allowing for normal seasonal movements. This three months on three months increase, although not as great as in recent months, indicates that the underlying trend of total turnover is now rising at a rate higher than that of recent years. In the year 1974 as a whole the increase in turnover, compared with 1973, was 15 per cent.

Recent percentage increases compared with a year earlier (*not* seasonally adjusted) for the main kinds of business are as follows:

	All caterers	Licensed hotels and holiday camps	Restaurants cafes and fish and chip shops	Public houses	Canteens
1974 year	15	15	13	16	14
3rd quarter	15	16	13	16	18
4th quarter	19	18	15	20	22
December	20	20	14	22	22

Turnover for all caterers in the fourth quarter of 1974 was almost 19 per cent more than in the same quarter of 1973. The components of this all-caterers index all showed similar increases in turnover for this period, with public houses (the largest component) recording an increase of over 20 per cent and licensed hotels and holiday camps an increase of almost 18 per cent. Restaurants, cafes, and fish and chip shops increased turnover by just over 15 per cent and canteens (the smallest component of the index) increased turnover by nearly 22 per cent.

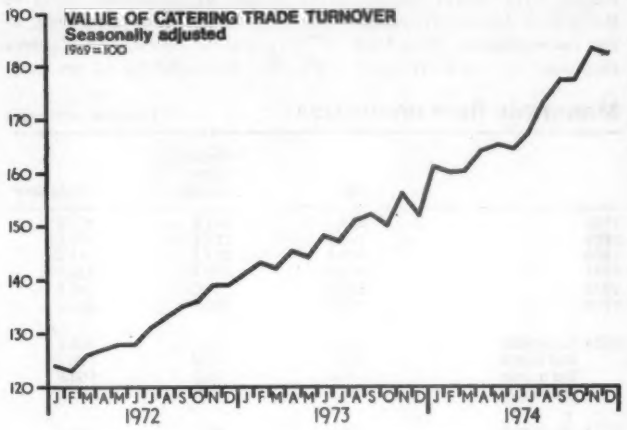

TABLE 1 Turnover of all caterers seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of turnover per week (†) 1969 = 100

		Value at current prices (turnover in 1969 – £2,533 million)
1969		100
1970		108
1971		118
1972		131
1973		148
1974		170
1970	1st quarter	105
	2nd quarter	108
	3rd quarter	109
	4th quarter	111
1971	1st quarter	115
	2nd quarter	117
	3rd quarter	119
	4th quarter	122
1972	1st quarter	125
	2nd quarter	128
	3rd quarter	133
	4th quarter	138
1973	1st quarter	142
	2nd quarter	146
	3rd quarter	150
	4th quarter	153
1974	1st quarter	160
	2nd quarter	165
	3rd quarter	173
	4th quarter	181
1974	January	161
	February	160
	March*	160
	April	164
	May	165
	June*	164
	July	167
	August	173
	September*	177
	October	177
	November	183
	December*	182
1974	July-September	173
	October-December	181
Percentage increase		5

† The monthly periods consist of four weeks except those marked * which are of five weeks. The December 1974 period was the five weeks from 24 November 1974 to 28 December 1974; the December 1973 period was the five weeks from 25 November 1973 to 29 December 1973.

The series are provisionally rebased using the broad results of the large scale inquiry into the catering trades for 1969. The detailed results of this inquiry will be incorporated in a final rebasing in due course.

A full report on the 1969 inquiry was published in November 1972 under the title *Catering Trades 1969: Statistical Inquiry* (HMSO 32p net).

Retailers' stocks in December 1974

The value of stocks at constant prices held by retailers at the end of December showed a fall of 7 per cent compared with the corresponding month last year. The figures for the second half of 1974 suggest a continued decline in the level of stocks at a time when the underlying movement in the volume of retail sales was broadly flat.

At current prices the volume of stocks was 16 per cent higher compared with a year earlier (see below).

Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier*

(At cost at end of month)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
At current price:												
1966	65	68	69	70	70	71	69	70	71	75	78	70
1967	68	69	71	72	72	73	71	72	73	78	81	72
1968	71	73	76	77	78	79	78	78	80	85	89	81
1969	79	81	84	85	86	86	85	84	86	92	96	87
1970	84	86	88	90	89	90	89	88	91	97	102	93
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	97	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	103	105	102	102	105	114	120	107
1973	103	106	110	108	110	113	112	113	117	127	135	124
1974	120	121	126	130	134	135	134	133	138	150	159	143
1969	*11*	*11*	*11*	*10*	*9*	*8*	*9*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*8*
1970	*6*	*5*	*5*	*6*	*4*	*5*	*5*	*5*	*6*	*6*	*6*	*7*
1971	*6*	*6*	*7*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*7*	*9*	*8*	*8*
1972	*8*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*8*	*7*	*8*	*7*	*7*	*8*	*7*
1973	*8*	*8*	*9*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	*21*	*22*	*19*	*20*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*18*	*16*
At constant (1970) prices:												
1966	88	91	93	93	94	95	92	92	94	99	102	91
1967	89	91	93	94	95	95	94	94	96	102	106	94
1968	93	95	98	97	99	100	97	98	100	106	111	100
1969	97	99	102	102	103	103	101	99	101	108	113	102
1970	97	99	101	102	101	101	99	98	100	106	111	100
1971	95	97	99	99	98	99	96	96	99	107	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	100	107	113	100
1973	97	99	102	109	110	112	110	109	113	120	126	114
1974	109	107	111	111	112	111	109	107	109	116	120	107
1969	*4*	*4*	*4*	*5*	*4*	*3*	*4*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*	*2*
1970	*1*	—	*-1*	—	*-2*	*-1*	*-2*	*-1*	*-1*	*-2*	*-2*	*-1*
1971	*-2*	*-2*	*-2*	*-3*	*-3*	*-2*	*-3*	*-2*	*-2*	—	—	—
1972	—	—	*1*	*1*	*2*	*3*	*2*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*2*	—
1973	*2*	*2*	*3*	*9*	*10*	*10*	*12*	*11*	*12*	*12*	*12*	*14*
1974	*12*	*9*	*8*	*2*	*2*	*-1*	*-1*	*-2*	*-3*	*-4*	*-5*	*-7*

Retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 were £1,899 million at current prices.

With the introduction of VAT, the current price estimates of stocks are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the current price series have not been given. As the basis of valuation is now comparable with that of a year earlier these percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

Provisional estimates of vehicle production and new car registrations in January

Tables 1 and 2 show United Kingdom vehicle production as estimated from provisional returns supplied by the major manufacturers. Car production in the four weeks ending 25 January totalled 124,800 units, a weekly rate of 31,200, which was 26 per cent higher than the low level of output in January 1974 when production was affected by the 'three day week'. Commercial vehicle output at 33,400 units (8,400 per week) was 42 per cent more than the depressed level in January.

In seasonally adjusted terms, car output of 131,000 units in January remained at about the moderate rate achieved in the last quarter of 1974 while production of commercial vehicles at 37,900 units recovered to the rate of output in the third quarter of last year. For both cars and commercial vehicles, production in the last three months (November to January) was similar to the average level of output in the second half of 1974.

Table 3 shows provisional estimates of new car registrations. These are based on the number of registration applications received by the Department of the Environment up to the end of January. They include an estimate for the late arrival of documents at the Licensing Directorate at Swansea. The provisional estimate for January should be regarded as more than usually tentative because of the recent change to the new basis. In particular the seasonal factor for January has been revised to allow for documents lodged in December for licences which commence at the beginning of January.

Seasonally adjusted new car registrations in Great Britain are provisionally estimated at 108,000 in January. This was markedly higher than the low level of 87,000 in December and the average of 96,000 in the fourth quarter of 1974; but for the three months November to January new car registrations averaged 98,000 a month, which was 9 per cent lower than in the preceding three months.

TABLE 1 Estimated UK production in January 1975

Thousands

	Cars		Commercial vehicles	
	Month	Weekly average	Month	Weekly average
Estimated output:				
1975 (4 weeks ended 25.1.75)	124.8	31.2	33.4	8.4
1974 (4 weeks ended 26.1.74)	99.4	24.9	23.6	5.9
Percentage change		+26		+42

TABLE 2 UK vehicle production: monthly averages seasonally adjusted

Thousands

	1974				1975			Average of		
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Aug./ Oct. 1974	Nov. '74/ Jan. '75	% change
Cars	111	132	138	130	142	128	131	124	134	+8
Commercial vehicles	28.3	33.8	37.5	34.6	35.4	35.6	37.9	35.5	36.3	+2

TABLE 3 New car registrations

Thousands

	1974				1975			Average of		
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Aug./ Oct. 1974	Nov. '74/ Jan. '75	% change
Recorded	327	330	331	245	90.2	60.2	126			
Seasonally adjusted	308	313	326	287	98.3	86.9	108	107	98	−9

'Economic Progress Report' for February

The February issue of *Economic Progress Report* is now available.

Economic Progress Report, prepared by the Treasury Information Division, is published every month. It contains articles on economic subjects, analysing or giving background to Government economic policy, together with the Treasury's assessment of the economic situation and a table and charts of economic indicators.

The main articles in the February issue are on the annual White Paper on Public Expenditure published on 30 January; the Treasury's monthly report on the economic situation, prepared on the basis of data available up to late-January 1975, and economic indicators.

Copies of *Economic Progress Report* are available from Circulation Section (H), Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU.

UK official reserves in January

The UK official reserves increased by $44 million during January after accruals of foreign currency borrowing by the public sector under the exchange cover scheme totalling $29 million and drawings of $700 million on the $2,500 million HMG loan. At the end of January they stood at $6,833 million.

Business Monitor

The following titles and issues of Business Monitor are now available:

Production series

Monthly at £1.40 each a year post free:

PM 33-36	Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders) for October 1974
PM 423	Foam backing, foam laminating and fabric to fabric bonding for November 1974
PM 440	Made-up clothing (sales volume indices) for October 1974

Quarterly at 52p each a year post free:

PQ 109.2	Miscellaneous mining and quarrying for third quarter 1974
PQ 263	Lubricating oils and greases for third quarter 1974
PQ 339.2	Printing, bookbinding and paper goods machinery for third quarter 1974
PQ 353	Surgical instruments and appliances for third quarter 1974
PQ 354	Scientific and industrial instruments and systems for third quarter 1974
PQ 363	Telegraph and telephone apparatus and equipment for third quarter 1974
PQ 368	Electrical appliances primarily for domestic use for third quarter 1974
PQ 383	Aerospace products for third quarter 1974
PQ 391	Hand tools and implements for third quarter 1974
PQ 415	Jute for third quarter 1974
PQ 417.2	Warp knitting for third quarter 1974
PQ 471	Timber (sawmilling etc. and builders' woodwork) for third quarter 1974
PQ 499.2	Miscellaneous manufacturing industries for third quarter 1974

Service and distributive series

Monthly at £2.80 each a year post free:

SD 1	Food shops for December 1974
SD 2	Clothing and footwear shops for December 1974
SD 3	Durable goods shops for December 1974
SD 4	Miscellaneous non-food shops for December 1974

Monthly at 84p a year post free:

SD 6	Instalment credit business of finance houses for December 1974

Monthly at £1.40 a year post free:

SD 8	Instalment credit business of retailers for December 1974

Quarterly at 52p a year post free:

SD 9	Computer services for third quarter 1974

Business Monitors in the Production, Service and Distributive and Miscellaneous series are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The Census of Production reports are available on standing order from the same address or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Exceptionally copies can be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Department's Central Library, which will supply prices on request (tel. 01-215 3038) or the Department's Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent, NPT 1XG (tel. 0633-56111, ext. 2973, telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of titles of Business Monitors is available on application.

Inquiries about the distribution of Business Monitors may be made to the Business Statistics Office (ext. 2700) whose address and telephone number appear above.

British Film Fund Agency returns

The British Film Fund Agency has authorised the publication of the following information for the four weeks ended 28 December 1974.

Distributors' earnings submitted	£
Low cost films:	
Eligible (after multiplying by 2½)	53,032
Not eligible for 2½ times rental	6,771
	59,803
High cost films (including newsreels after multiplying by 2½)	399,585
	459,388
Films under 3,000 ft. (after multiplying by 2½)	33,605
	492,993
Levy collections paid to the Agency by HM Customs and Excise to 14 January 1975 including an estimate of collections approximately covering entertainments for the four weeks ended 28 December 1974	245,000

The second interim allocation for the eighteenth year will be at the rate of 40 per cent.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 7 February 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
The Land That Time Forgot	BR/E 37927/9/2/80	90	3 February	British Lion Films Ltd.	Amicus Productions Ltd.
Frightmare	BR/E 37928/9/2/80	88	3 February	Miracle Films Ltd.	Peter Walker (Heritage) Ltd.
Countdown On Lauchernalp	BR/E 37929/9/2/80	16	3 February	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Valais Investments Ltd.
Movietone News 2383	BR/E 37813/9/2/80	8	7 February	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
Danger Girls	F 37930	90	4 February	Pan European Films Ltd.	Cimex Mexico, Mexico City
Too Small Ticky	F 37931	87	5 February	Pan European Films Ltd.	Les Films du Quadrangle, Paris
The Taking Of Pelham One Two Three	F 37932	104	5 February	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Palomar Pictures/Palladium Productions, California
The Groove Tube	F 37933	72	6 February	GTO Films Ltd.	KS Productions, New York

Amendment to the Register
The playing time of the film 'Conrack' (F 37870), registered on 23 December 1974, has been amended to 106 minutes.

Notes
1a In the list of films registered during the week ended 24 January 1975 the Series EP should have been prefixed with 'Professor Popper's Problems, Episode . . .'.
1b The playing time of the film 'Ransom' should have read 88 minutes.
2 In the list of films registered during the week ended 31 January 1975 the film 'The Corruption of Chris Hiller' should have read 'The Corruption of Chris Miller'.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	30 May 1974
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	23 Jan. 1975
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	12 Dec. 1974
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	9 Jan. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	16 Jan. 1975
Census of production	19 Dec. 1974 (see also 16 Jan. 1975)
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	6 Feb. 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	28 Nov. 1974
Liquidity	12 Dec. 1974
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	23 Jan. 1975
N. Ireland (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1974
Energy trends (M)	This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	23 Jan. 1975
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	This week
cinema admissions and takings (M)	6 Feb. 1975
overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	5 Sept. 1974
household consumption (Q)	16 Jan. 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	This week
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	This week
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	14 Mar. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Furniture orders and deliveries (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Hire-purchase business (M)	6 Feb. 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	30 Jan. 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Wales index (Q)	11 Apr. 1974
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	30 Jan. 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	13 June 1974
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	This week
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	28 Nov. 1974
production (M)	This week
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	28 Nov. 1974
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
estimated figures (M)	This week
motor trade turnover (Q)	21 Nov. 1974
Office development permits (Q)	31 Oct. 1974
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	27 June 1974
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	30 Jan. 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	23 Jan. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	5 Sept. 1974
Regional selective assistance (M)	16 Jan. 1975
Retail prices index (M)	23 Jan. 1975
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	6 Feb. 1975
provisional figures (M)	16 Jan. 1975
sales, N. Ireland (M)	16 Jan. 1975
stocks (M)	This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	27 June 1974
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	26 Dec. 1974
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' (Q)	9 Jan. 1975
retail (M)	This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	1 Aug. 1974
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	21 Nov. 1974
carpet sales (M)	30 Jan. 1975
cotton industry production (M)	This week
hosiery production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	This week
orders and deliveries (M)	21 Mar. 1974
wholesale houses' sales (M)	30 Jan. 1975
wool exports (Q)	12 Dec. 1974
wool output (M)	This week
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	This week
international passenger survey (A)	9 Jan. 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	21 Feb. 1974
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	4 Apr. 1974
index numbers (M)	This week

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	2 Jan. 1975
Business Monitor titles	6 Sept. 1973
Customs notices of interest to exporters	This week
ECGD local offices	23 Jan. 1975
Guide to Departments	5 Dec. 1974
Official Receivers' offices	6 Feb. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	16 Jan. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	30 Jan. 1975

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

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Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

18 February 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Bristol Esso Hotel, Filton Road, Hambrook, Bristol

Auctioneers: Russell, Baldwin & Bright (Dept. L), 19/21 King Street, Hereford HR4 9DB (tel. 0432 55441)

The lots which are lying at Hereford and other locations include cranes, vehicles (including Land Rovers and buses), trailers, fork lift truck, Perkins diesel engines, machine tools, generators, water pumps, tyres, axle stands, electronic valves, watches and clocks, sewing machines, tentage, boots and shoes, jerseys, greatcoats, trousers and other clothing, furniture including 480 secretaires, 220 bureaux, 200 dressing chests, wardrobes, tables and chairs, MT, aircraft, and electrical spares, ferrous and non-ferrous scrap, and other miscellaneous stores.

26 February 1975 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers: Harrison & Hetherington Ltd. (Dept. L), Borderway Mart, Rosehill, Carlisle CA1 2RS (tel. 0228 26292)

The lots which are lying at Carlisle and other locations include Land Rovers, saloon cars, vans, ambulances, etc., machine and hand tools, oscillators, amplifiers, power units and other electrical and electronic items, watches, binoculars, micrometers, verniers, air mileage units and other instruments, office furniture, aerial systems, hose assemblies, telephone, teleprinter and photographic equipment, textiles, clothing, boots and shoes, paint, tyres, and other miscellaneous stores.

Catalogues for the above sales, which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the date of the sale, price 10p (postal orders only).

Department of Trade

Ship for Sale

Offers are invited for the purchase of the undermentioned Royal Fleet Auxiliary 'as lying' at HM Naval Base, Portsmouth.

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Offers should be addressed to the Department of Trade, Room 43 at the above address in envelopes clearly marked 'Offer to Purchase "BROWN RANGER"' and must be received not later than *noon* on 6 March 1975.

The above information is given for guidance only and any prospective purchaser must satisfy himself regarding actual details of the vessel and her present condition.

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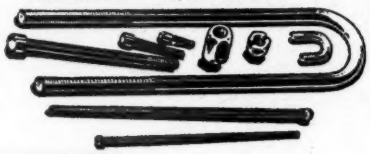

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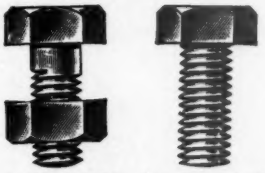

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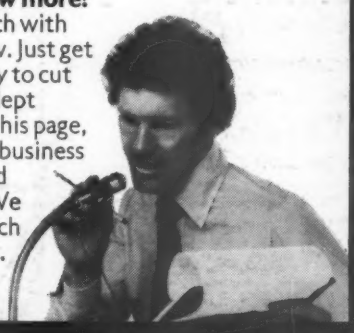

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